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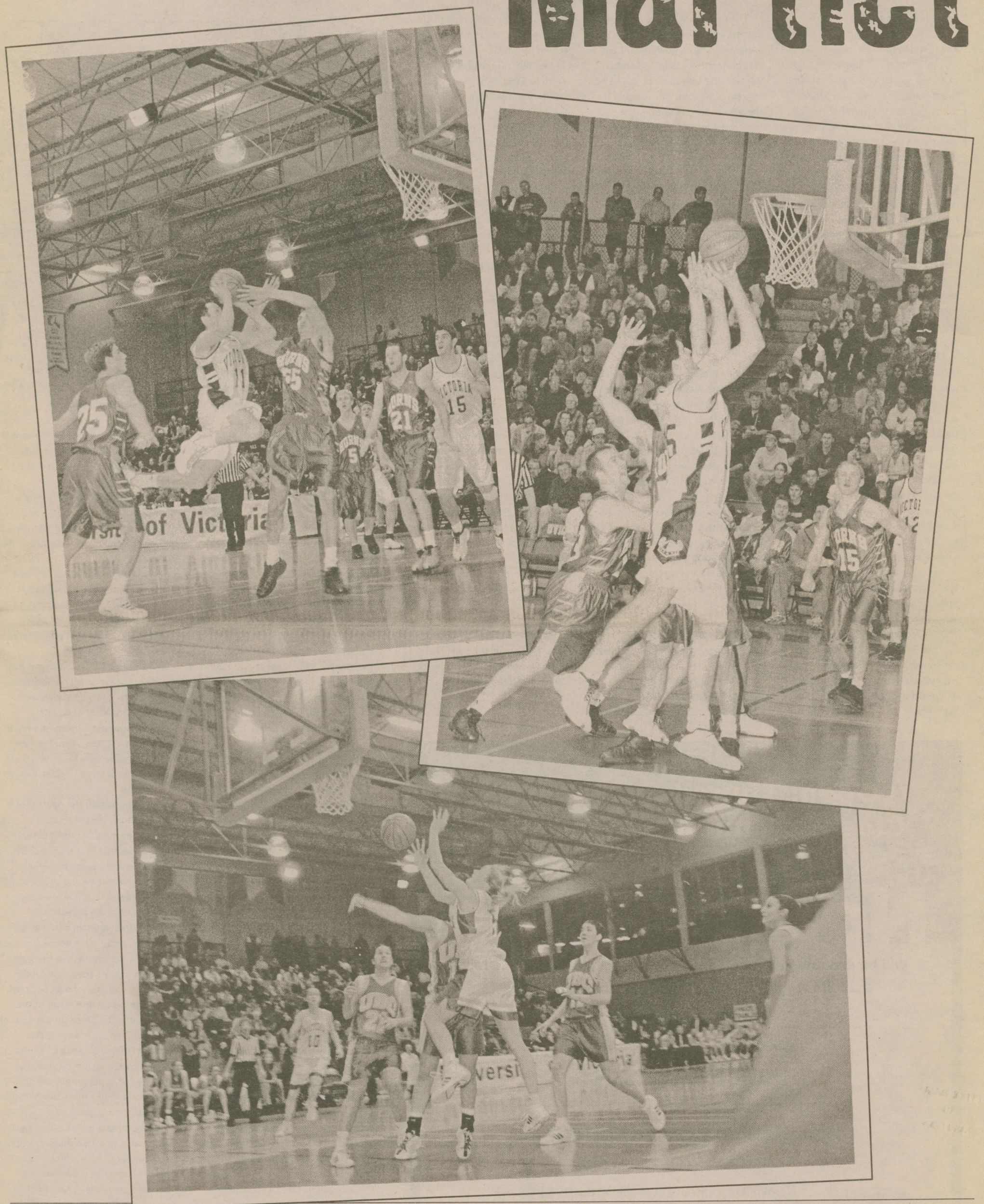
MARCH 1, 2001 [53.24]

Martlet

VIKES TAKE BASKETBALL SEMI-FINALS



cover by bethany smith
photos by Bliss Regimbal and Richard Warrington

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Forest conference critical of current logging practices

by John Thompson

The marbled murrelet is a chubby seabird that lays its single egg high in an old conifer of the coastal rain forest. Mottled brown and white plumage has kept murrelet so well camouflaged that nests weren't discovered until 1990.

Murrelet nesting is a small snapshot of life in B.C.'s forests, and was the subject of the third-annual Ancient Forests conference hosted here at UVic. On Feb. 24, 150 students and community members soaked up the expertise of researchers and activists.

UVic biologist Dr. Alan Burger kicked off the event by speaking on the plight of the endangered sea bird dependent on old-growth forests for nesting.

Other keynote speakers included UVic biologist Dr. Tom Reimchen who has researched the connection between Pacific salmon and B.C.'s coastal rainforests. Reimchen has traced the stable nitrogen isotopes from tree-core samples to the salmon carried into the forest by predators. In some cases, 60 to 80 per cent of the nitrogen in old-growth trees is derived from salmon, and trees have been found to grow two and a half times higher where salmon is present, Reimchen said.

In one entertaining presentation, the Sierra Club's Jill Thompson provided an overview of the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan, and dramatized it by carving the audience up "like the Government carves up Vancouver Island." Participants were led outside the SUB, divvied up into different sectors, and told to "make like trees."

The Clayoquot Sound group was draped with a green blanket, corresponding to government and corporate attempts to "greenwash" the fact that Clayoquot is still being logged. The group was isolated from the others, since Clayoquot Sound isn't considered a part of Vancouver Island under current logging agreements.

> If it passes, we need to take to the streets, and those heroic enough need to take to the forests
>
> *Ken Wu, Western Canadian Wilderness Committee*

While the Special Management Zone group was home to exceptional wildlife, recreation, tourism and cultural assets, the area was still designated a logging zone. The majority of the group's members were cut down, although a few old-growth comrades were spared the axe.

Thompson's presentation shed light on the proposed provincial Land Use Plan, an agreement that was developed over eight years and finalized last November. She is critical of the lack of public consultation during the Plan's creation, saying public involvement ended two years into the negotiations with no opportunities for input in the past six years.

Recent logging conflicts are a symptom of a larger cause: "the Overcut in B.C.," Thompson says, referring to the gap between current logging practices and a sustainable rate of forestry.

Ken Wu, campaigner for the Western Canada Wilderness Committee (WCWC), spoke against the government's recently proposed "Working Forests" legislation, which is passing the final hurdles of public consultation. Currently, 13 per cent of Vancouver Island's land base is protected, while only 6.6 per cent is commercially viable forest.

But Wu says the legislation would be more accurately described as "anti-forest protection legislation" akin to "the pseudo-privatization" of public lands.

"It provides all the benefits of private land, minus the property taxes," Wu said.

He adds that the "No net-loss policy" of the legislation means that if more land is protected from logging, other previously protected areas will have to be opened up.

Wu suggested concerned citizens should flood the government's website with criticism of the plan. If the legislation is ratified, he advocates more militant tactics.

"If it passes, we need to take to the streets, and those heroic enough need to take to the forests," Wu said. A rally has been planned outside the parliament buildings the day the legislature opens, expected sometime in the next few weeks.

On the Web:

B.C. Government "Working Forests" Consultation website: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/pab/pc/wf/wfcommentform.htm

Open: Thursday, March 2
Closing: Thursday, March 16

Nominations

will be accepted at the GSS Infodesk, beginning March 2, for the following Graduate Students' Society positions:

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(Term of Office: April1/01 - Mar. 31/02)

VICE PRESIDENT

(Term of Office: April1/01 - Mar. 31/02)

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

(Term of Office: April 1/01 - Oct. 31/01)

Nomination forms are available at the GSS Infodesk in the Grad Centre. For more information, call the GSS Services Coordinator at 721-8816 or e-mail: gss@uvvm.uvic.ca

All GSS Executive positions demand a time commitment of a minimum 30 hours per month. A stipend is given for each position.

GRADUATE STUDENTS' SOCIETY University of Victoria GSS

LOCAL 89 - CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

Election: March 21 & 22/2001

Victoria police call for more cops downtown

photo by Richard Warrington

Victoria police want to beef up their presence downtown.

by Kevin Groves

Local activists are wary of a Victoria Police decision to budget $1.56 million for eight new members intended for the downtown patrol.

According to the city budget, the increase follows similar shifts in other city departments such as Fire, Engineering and Parks, and Community Services.

The eight hirings are set for July 31 and will bring membership up to 178 from 186.

But Stacy Chappel, executive director for Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG), is wary of what the increase will mean. "If their intent is to police the poor, then there are better ways to spend $1.5 million," she said.

Referring to past police "clean ups" such as the Broad St. renovations, Chappel said relocating the poor from downtown doesn't take into consideration the real problem of poverty, or the decrease in services available to people marginalized by poverty.

"I don't see panhandlers themselves as a problem. I don't see prostitutes as a problem. I see poverty as a problem," she said.

Currently, funding the Victoria Police takes up 19 per cent of the city budget, 11 per cent more than the fire department.

The city police staff counts have not changed since 1997 while other independent municipal forces have increased, on average, by three per cent.

In the last ten years the department has increased authorized strength from 167 to 178 or six per cent, while other forces in the province, both municipal and RCMP, have increased, on average, by 13.3 per cent.

Seivewright said demands on existing staff explain the need for more personnel. Statistics from the Attorney General's office indicate that in 1999 Victoria's population was approximately 75,283 and its police strength was 178. The number of criminal code offences reported for every 1000 people in that year was 232.

In comparison, Saanich, with a 1999 population of 106,695, had a police strength of 133 and a crime rate of 74. The provincial crime rate in 1999 was 116.

According to statistics, Victoria Police has the highest case burden in B.C. annually, running at about 98 cases per officer. The average for independent municipal police forces is 72.

"The reason the department has the highest case burden is because Victoria is a core city," Seivewright said. "The majority of Greater Victoria liquor establishments are in the downtown area. Also, the Inner Harbour and legislative grounds are host to several large Greater Victoria-wide events."

Seivewright said the new officers will be used to create a street presence in the downtown core. In 1999, during the first nine months, 758 beat officers were deployed. During the same period in 2000, 258 were deployed, which is a 66 per cent reduction, he added.

Jannit Rabinovitch, who has sat on the Victoria Police Board since 1998, said the increase in the police budget is also to accommodate a staff wage increase of 2.95 per cent. This wage hike is the result of the union contract. "Since 90 per cent of the police budget is wages, the increase is fairly standard," she said.

Rabinovitch also indicated that the increase in personnel will give the Victoria Police more flexibility for its existing staff.

"More female police officers will now be able to go on maternity leave if required and other officers can take a leave of absence if they are disabled in some way. Most police departments are not very good about providing their staff with these options."

Errata:

In the Feb. 15 issue, Jake Warren was incorrectly identified as the program director for CIVI television. In fact, Warren's official title is administrative assistant. Mea culpa to Jake and the folks at CIVI.

UVic bans Peter from campus

by Jeff Werner

After a dispute over the storage of his personal possessions, Peter Verin, a man who has become a familiar face in the UVic community over the past two decades, is now banned from entering any campus building – besides Campus Security and the SUB.

The student society's personnel committee voted at first to support the campus ban. But Verin successfully argued his own case at a Feb. 26 board of directors meeting asking the students to allow him access to the SUB.

So far, the university hasn't budged on their decision.

On Feb. 20, acting janitorial manager Dick Chappel ordered the removal of Peter Verin's belongings from the Clearihue courtyard.

"We had another go at Peter today," Chappel wrote in an internal memo posted in staffrooms across the campus.

"While he was away from his pile of junk in the Clearihue courtyard I called the garbage truck and disposed of the mess. He came along just as we were finishing up and got a little hysterical," the memo states.

After contacting police to report a theft, Verin went to the office of campus security director Hunter McDonald, and was read a letter signed by McDonald in front of both Chappel and Saanich Police.

The letter states that Verin would be charged with "assault by trespass" if found in any building at UVic except Campus Security.

"He was also informed that at any time, any possessions that he has with him that could not be carried at one time, would be removed, stored and disposed of," the memo states.

Posted the afternoon after the incident, the memo requested that if UVic staff "see Peter in any building... that they call Campus Security right away."

Verin says he was physically prevented by the facilities management staff from collecting his belongings, which he says are not garbage, during the incident.

Verin feels the university is only using his self-described practice of "salvaging post-consumer use, pre-consumer waste" as an excuse to ban him from campus.

"I appear to be an object case lesson for the non-academic sector of this university," says Verin.

Many faculty and staff who regularly talk to Verin describe him as an intelligent, friendly man who is concerned with the environment.

Carla Davidson, a UVic graduate who now lives in Revelstoke, said that the decision to ban Peter from buildings is sad, considering that he has been around for so long.

She called the decision "indicative of the decline of UVic as an institution, not the pop machines or buildings named after sponsors, but because the community is losing its ability to be open to different ways of seeing the world and treating people."

Hunter MacDonald said that he has dealt with Peter many times, but midway through his interview with *the Martlet*, MacDonald contacted UVic Communications and was directed to avoid all questions.

Communications officer Robie Liscomb said that, "if any unsanitary material is found on campus, staff has to destroy it," but he confirmed there is no specific policy regarding how much a person may carry or storage of belongings on campus.

"The university has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy environment for everyone," says Liscomb. "Peter was leaving rotting food, dirty clothes and other unsanitary material in classrooms, hallways, as well as outside."

Facilities Management director Gerald Robson says his department has received numerous complaints from faculty and staff about Verin's belongings.

"We've tried to accommodate Peter. We've given him numerous warnings to remove his stuff and he hasn't."

Janet Grover, an officer with Campus Security said UVic building policy prohibits anybody from living or sleeping in buildings at UVic, but added "a lot of discretion is involved," such as dealing with students or faculty who have business on campus.

"The university administration is very reluctant to ban somebody," says Grover.

CFUV program director Randy Gelling said Verin had two radio shows at the campus station, but that the shows were suspended last summer when Verin voiced his opinions of the station's staff on-air, a violation of CFUV policy.

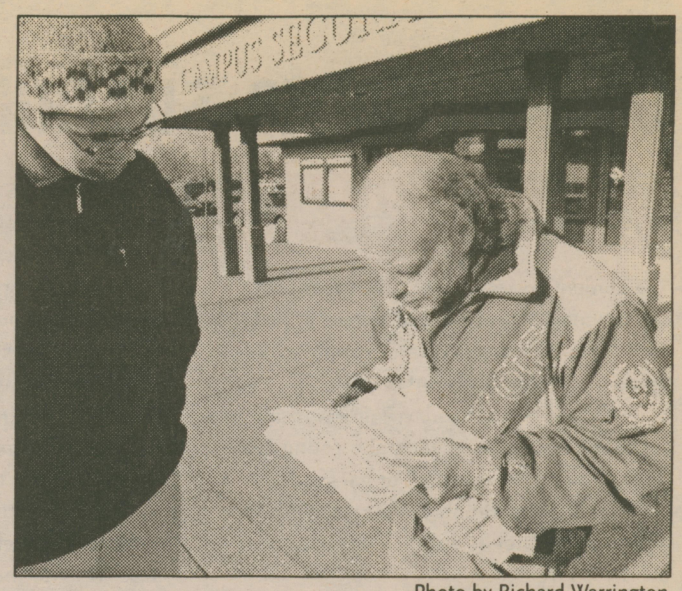

Photo by Richard Warrington

The university has banned the well known Peter Verin from all campus buildings, except UVic security and the SUB.

"He's a nuisance to certain people but there's a lot worse things than Peter on campus," said Gelling.

The University of Victoria Students' Society is far from united on the question of Verin's use of the SUB. Following complaints from unionized staff, reports of rotting vegetables posing a health hazard, and allegations of Verin's presence in the building after hours, the UVSS's personnel committee endorsed the university's decision to ban Verin from all campus buildings.

But at a board meeting Feb. 26, directors voted to revoke the committee's decision and enter into mediation with Verin to resolve issues surrounding his use of the SUB. Prior to his presentation before the board, two campus security officers attempted to escort Verin out of the building, but directors invited him into the meeting.

The SUB is now the only campus building, with the exception of campus security, in which Peter Verin is welcome.

"The university is a place of learning, and I'm a learner," Verin said.

Dosanjh cuts tuition by five per cent

by Ben Isitt

Tuition will be $113.25 cheaper next September after Premier Ujjal Dosanjh announced a five per cent reduction in fees at a Feb. 28 press conference.

"We will cut tuition fees by five per cent this year," Dosanjh told an overflow crowd in the SUB's Michèle Pujol room. "Lower fees help ensure that education is accessible to all British Columbians, and mean lower debt for students.

"We will ensure in B.C. that all post-secondary institutions are fully compensated for the reduction in tuition revenue," Dosanjh said.

This should help alleviate the concerns of students, faculty, and administrators who fear tuition freezes and roll-backs hurt the quality of education.

"Our view has always been that provided the resources are there, we feel this is a valid, sound policy," UVic president David Turpin told *the Martlet*.

"What the premier has done is indicate to the students of this province that he intends to enhance the affordibility of education, but not at the expense of quality. And I support that objective."

While the details have yet to be hammered out, the provincial legislature will reconvene Mar. 14, and Finance Minister Paul Ramsey will table a budget alocating funds to compensate post-secondary institutions for the reduction in tuition revenue. If the budget is ratified before the NDP government's mandate expires Jun. 28, the fee reduction will be in place in Sept. 2001.

The Premier's announcement was welcomed with hearty applause from the students packed into the SUB.

"It sends a message of hope," said Anita Zaenker, chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students' B.C. component and a former director of academics of the UVic Students' Society. "It says that you, as a working-class or middle-class British Columbian, will have the opportunity to attend post-secondary education."

UBC President Martha Piper, speaking on behalf of the University Presidents' Council of B.C., described the announcement as "truly remarkable" but said access must not come at the expense of quality.

While there is widespread recognition that the fee reduction represents an important first step, some are already wondering whether Dosanjh's announcement goes far enough.

"Ultimately we are working toward the elimination of tuition fees," Zaenker said. "Post-secondary education is central for a healthy economy, much like high school was 30 years ago. This is a step in the right direction. Let's make sure this is legislated, and that this direction is continued."

B.C.'s Minister of Advanced Education, Training and Technology does not rule out further reductions.

"Theoretically, you could have zero tuition," Cathy Macgregor said. "We know that in a number of European jurisdictions education is free, and I think that direction is appropriate for our government to consider."

In an interview with *the Martlet* prior to his announcement, Premier Dosanjh defended the five per cent reduction.

"At the end of the day, I believe that if we continue to provide compensation for the tuition reduction, and we continue to provide more resources for universities, we may be able to eliminate tuition fees, which I believe we should."

Tuition in B.C. is the second lowest in Canada, after Quebec, while Ontario and Alberta charge over $4,000 per year. Both Manitoba and Newfoundland are considering reducing fees.

What do UVic students think about the announcement?

"When I heard him, I just about fell off the couch," said Ted Bingham, a fourth-year history student. "I was quite surprised by it. I figured they'd continue the freeze, but making it less surprised me."

UVSS chairperson Summer McFadyen said she was excited by the announcement. "This is historic," McFadyen said.

Along with the fee reduction, Dosanjh announced the creation of 5,000 new post-secondary spaces in the next year, as well as a one-time $23 million research grant for B.C.'s universities.

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Canada

UVSS adopts sustainability policy

by Jeff Werner

The student society's new seven-year plan to cut down on SUB water use arrives at just the right time, with the city water supply at two-thirds of its normal level this year.

The UVSS Sustainability Policy was adopted at the society's annual general meeting Feb.15. It will provide a framework of suggestions on how the Student Union Building can conserve and protect water as well as electricity, heat and other resources.

Recommendations like biodegradable soap, flow-restricted taps and reusable mugs at the Munchie Bar are included in order to cut down the 878 tons of garbage produced every year on campus.

Kari Worton, UVSS director of academics and chair of the society's environmental sustainability committee, says that more long-term, costly changes like ultra-low flush toilets and revolving doors will be incorporated into the SUB's regular building upkeep fund on a replace-as-needed basis.

"There is no cost increase to students. The money we save (on energy consumption) will cover the cost of the changes," says Worton.

While the UVSS thinks of ways it can save water and energy in the SUB, the university continues to consume 201 million gallons of water every year. The city's reservoir is at 66 per cent of its average capacity due to low rain and snowfall this winter, says Deborah Walker, a demand-management officer for the Capital Regional District's Water Office.

The CRD is the governing body that co-ordinates the activities of 12 municipalities and sells water to the entire region. Walker says this is the time of year when precipitation is needed because water use doubles in the summer, which could mean stiffer rules on how much water we can use.

"We [the CRD] are looking at having one water bylaw for all the municipalities," Walker says.

The City of Victoria currently enforces a three-stage CRD bylaw limiting water use between June 1 and Sept. 30. Victoria water technician Paul Marynaik describes the first section of the bylaw as "voluntary conservation." People are allowed to water their lawns twice a week during the summer and are given verbal warnings if they exceed this limit.

If the water levels became low enough this summer, however, the bylaw is capable of banning all lawn watering at any time, a stage of the bylaw Marynaik says has never been enforced before.

The irony, says Marynaik, is that when the city enforces the bylaw, people seem to water their lawns more. "When we go into water restrictions we actually have a higher water consumption."

Marynaik thinks this is because when people only have two days a week to water their lawns they try to get as much watering done as possible.

Back at UVic, the administration may be lagging behind the student society when its comes to sustainability. Despite the university having adopted its own sustainability policy in 1998, an employee who works the night shift at UVic feels the university still acts like a 1970s corporation when it comes to conservation.

"I think UVic has no water or electricity conservation policy at all," he said.

The employee, who wishes to remain anonymous, says he regularly sees "sprinkler heads broken off, shooting water" because no one monitors the automatic system.

"Half the time when they're going it's raining outside. The sprinklers aren't adjusted properly and a good percentage of the water is going onto the street."

He says more than just water is wasted. He often retrieves PCB-contaminated electrical equipment and copier toner cartridges out of the garbage. He also sees several buildings and lecture halls with many lights left on after midnight when the university is pretty much vacant.

"They figure if the tax payers are paying for this, leave the lights on all night, who cares. The only sort of conservation or environmentally friendly program the university has is paper recycling. Other than that the university acts as if electricity and water is a never-ending resource."

The UVSS's new sustainability policy may go some way in helping to remedy this situation. According to Worton, it is the first policy of its kind on a university campus in Canada.

Rubbing for a cause

by Kevin Groves

For a short while, UVic's Student Union Building had its very own massage parlor.

Last week, members of the UVic chapter of Circle K, the university level Kiwanis International Foundation, provided a welcome break during the midterm blitz by massaging away the aches and pains of fellow students in the SUB Upper Lounge to support several charities.

The third-annual SUB Rub raised $155.60, which will be split between the Beth Hatlaim Children's Orphanage in South Africa, and provide money to help prevent Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) in developing countries.

Having undertaken other fundraisers this year like the Ingane Africa Dinner held last October, this addition brings Circle K's orphanage contribution to $4521.85, and provides $208.36 to support the fight against IDD.

"We originally planned the massage fundraiser during midterm week to maximize our chances of raising money," said Circle K district editor Amy Chen. "The money we've raised will go a long way in South Africa."

Founded in 1996, and located in Kwa-Zulu, Natal, Beth Hatlaim, is a non-profit organization run by Angus Buchen, a local farmer and pastor.

Buchen and 15 fellow childcare workers look after 23 children who are all HIV positive. The home offers the children a stable environment, and provides them with education from preschool to high school.

UVic's Circle K chapter became involved with Beth Hatlaim after third-year Political Science student Monique Jacobs travelled to South Africa and worked at the orphanage.

This year Beth Hatlaim plans to adopt another 180 children, and the funds Circle K raises will help to achieve this goal.

The fight against IDD is Circle K's other charity, and according to the World Health Organization (WHO), IDD is classified as the "world's most preventable cause of mental retardation." Iodized salt is the most effective and efficient method for securing iodine in the human body.

A tablespoon of the micronutrient consumed in small amounts is enough to prevent stillbirths, miscarriages, goiters, severe brain damage, and dwarfism.

The Sub-Saharan region of Africa is home to one of the highest concentrated areas of the disease. The WHO asserts that out of 39 countries, only 56 per cent of the population consumes enough iodine. Currently, 24,000 children are born each day with IDD, and a further 1.5 billion are at risk.

The Kiwanis International Foundation pledged to raise $40 million in 1994 to prevent IDD and have to date reached $38 million. Distribution of their donations have gone to 84 of the 110 countries listed to suffer from IDD by organizing education teams on iodine tests in salt, distribution of iodized salt and the creation of salt producing plants within the countries.

The SUB Rub represents Circle K's contribution to this ongoing endeavor, but just because they've massaged for charity doesn't mean that they are professional masseuses.

"We were trained by Richard Baker, a registered massage therapist," Roslyn Miller said. "But people still had to sign a waiver if they've been injured recently before we can massage them, that way we won't be sued if we injure them again."

No lawsuits were reported while the fundraiser went on.

Circle K plans to hold a second SUB Rub in the Michele Pujol room over three days at the end of March.

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Vertigo: Should it stay or should it go now?

by Gillian Jerome

When Vivek Sharma speaks, he leans forward from across his desk with barely a foot of air between you. His words tumble out at rapid-fire speed, and his hands gesticulate just as quickly. And he's only registering one cup on the caffeine-o-meter, or so he says.

An air-brushed black flag, the kind sold after PNE rock concerts, hangs on the wall behind him with the inscribed message: I'd rather die of thirst than drink from the cup of mediocrity.

Ten months into his charge as SUB business operations manager, Sharma commands change with a sort of k-club earnestness. "Their success is my success," Sharma says of the six SUB businesses under his wing.

We're here to talk about Vertigo, the legendary campus night club about to turn five, the magic number used to discern whether a business will, in fact, sink or swim.

The club's coming-of-age may come to a close with a possible end-of-the-year surplus, its first ever, after accumulating $160,000 in debt since opening day.

Sharma guarantees that he will do whatever he can to see the night club rock itself out of the red. With that zeal comes huge operational changes, including an application for a liquor license allowing all-ages events without special permission, a rubber stamp from the health inspector to serve food and a lengthy list of renovations.

Mainly, Sharma wants Vertigo to make money. To do that, his plan includes longer operating hours and multi-purpose use. "We want to be more than just a night club," he said. For example, Sharma wants to host ESL coffee socials, a day-use cafeteria and even the odd wedding party or dry grad.

In fact, Sharma wants to bring Noam Chomsky to Vertigo if he can. "Why not? In order to survive we've got to look at new ways of doing things."

The proverbial questions is, now that Vertigo is past the toddler stage, can it let go of the student-money crutch and start turning a real profit? Moreover, does anyone care if it does?

It will make a profit, said Doug Ausman, the student society's number-cruncher-in-chief. With over $6,000 in the bank and two months left before the end of the fiscal year, Vertigo stands firm on its feet. The club should bank $13,000 by the end of April if all goes as planned, he said.

Ask the people at the top, the student society directors to whom management has to answer, and it becomes clear that, yes, people with clout do care if it prospers.

But all along, those pulling Vertigo's strings have had to negotiate serving the student body without burying Vertigo in debt. And they say that it hasn't been easy.

As last year's finance director, student society Chair Summer MacFadyen said that at one point she would have suggested that Vertigo shut its doors. "But you have to look at the books and see that it has improved every year... We've realized that using the space for more than a night club will keep it viable."

photo by Richard Warrington

Happy fifth birthday: Vivek Sharma is the man behind the recent renovations. The club may post a profit this year although it's accumulated debt stands at $160,000.

Ever since Vertigo opened in Sept. 1996, it's been "the little club that could" with a crowd of naysayers booing and hissing at the sidelines. Vertigo racked up $68,000 in debt the next year, its worst ever. Then UVSS finance director Rob Flemming said the board of directors was nervous about its future.

"Shutting down Vertigo was always on the table," he said. "People always joked about turning it into a bowling alley."

"Had we had the chance to do the expansion over, we would have built a bigger Felicita's and opened during the day as a pub and a club at night."

Andy Reinhardt has managed Vertigo since Day One. The last five years of business have been more than a financial struggle.

"It's heart-breaking to hear people talk about closing Vertigo. It's easy for people to criticize from the outside when they don't know what has gone into it."

Reinhardt said that he's taken pay cuts and turned down other opportunities because he wants to see the club succeed. However, Vertigo's $160,000 accumulated debt equals half the society's total running deficit since the Student Union Building (SUB) renovations began six years ago.

An anonymous student society source said that while a firm decision on Vertigo is needed, its "extremely difficult" to close it down. "What are we going to do with it?"

However, not everyone is so sure that keeping it open because of a lack of alternatives is a good plan. Some Vertigo naysayers point to its primary goal of serving students, and declare that business is getting in the way. Culture doesn't flourish in the shadow of profit, said CFUV station manager Dean Schwind.

In November, Schwind sent an email to SUB employees criticizing Sharma's business practices after hearing no response to requests for an on-campus ban on corporate radio stations, as well as a request to book shows.

After spotting Extreme promoting an ICBC event on campus, Schwind asked Sharma for a guarantee that all commerical radio stations be barred from campus.

Schwind was fed up, he said, after learning that Reinhardt had booked most of Vertigo's incoming bands with off-campus corporate radio stations.

"Since August I made repeated attempts to make arrangements to book shows. And basically we were frozen out," said Schwind. "I was told that CFUV shows couldn't make money and that they'd caused problems with security in the past."

But Schwind insists that Vertigo management has a responsibility both to the students and the radio station to do business with CFUV first.

The radio station's lease agreement doesn't rule on a CFUV monopoly in or around the SUB building.

Continued on page 6

A club with a history

When it opened in September 1996, Vertigo was touted a replacement for the newly-defunct Harpo's – a legendary club for live acts, arguably the city's finest ever.

Harpo's went bankrupt after 20-some years in the precarious night club biz. Ask anyone who's been around long enough and they still lament its passing.

"It was the best club in town," said former UVic student Teresa McWhirter. "It was the only decent place to see a variety of kick-ass bands."

From the very start, Vertigo struggled to make a name for itself in Victoria's competitive night club scene. Limited by location, it was tough to draw the crowds up to Ring Road with no neighbouring clubs for bar hoppers to fall back on.

"I remember standing in that room when it first opened and thinking, how are we going to have enough room to pack people in here? But it just didn't turn out that way," said club manager Andy Reinhardt. "There was a lot of pressure from the very beginning to turn a profit."

That pressure may explain why Vertigo veered from a would-be Harpo's to what some call "a Top 40s night club," booking more guaranteed sell-outs like Spirit of the West instead of taking a gamble on either local talent, or alternative bands.

Reinhardt said that he'd like nothing more than to "step back and manage the place more creatively." The push for profit, he said, limits his choices.

So was Vertigo a business venture misguided from the start?

"Vertigo has great sight lines and excellent lights and sound. But there's no way it was another Harpo's. It just didn't have the shows or the location to draw the crowds," said former *Martlet* editor Andrew Lupton.

While losing loads of student money in its first two years of operation, board members decided to give it a chance, regardless of the gamble.

Besides, said Rob Fleming, finance director for the 1997/1998 academic year, the society locked itself into a contract.

After a fairly aggressive bidding war, management signed a three-year contract in 1996 with Artist Production Services (APS) to provide sound and lights for every show. Owner John Borys bought $200,000 in state-of-the-art equipment, for which the society pays about $40,000 a year to lease and service. According to Reinhardt, that first contract may have been a mistake. "Had we invested in lights and sound as a capital cost, we wouldn't be paying every year and we would have saved money."

Trimming the fat

Eventually, cost-cutting measures after the record loss in 1997 meant firing event programmer Marcus Pollard in April of that year. So Reinhardt picked up the slack and began managing as well as promoting.

Recalling his days at Vertigo, Pollard said that management deserves some credit for thriving in arguably the toughest business in town. "For anyone to expect a night club to make, as Liz Phair would say, 'shitloads of money' from the start, is crazy.

"Anybody with their own business knows that that's kooky. I believe that's the technical term."

Back to the Future

For two years, the student society has asked the Attorney General for a more flexible liquor license for "multi-purpose use." Vertigo's current class B liquor license prevents anyone under the age of 19 from entering the club, an obstacle Ausman said he hopes to overcome so that the club can override the age rule any time.

Given that, can the Vertigo train chug itself forth into future? Doug Ausman thinks so.

"Right now we're looking good. I can't say for sure that Vertigo will be open forever but the numbers speak for themselves."

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Should Vertigo stay or go?

Continued from pg. 5

However, the university does have a distribution rule with *the Martlet* banning all external newspapers from campus.

Sharma makes no apologies for going to other radio stations first. He says that CFUV doesn't have the market to promote sell-out shows. "The listener ratios are ten to one in favour of the Q."

Everyone knows that the night club business is dog eat dog, said Sharma, and you compete fiercely to book the best bands. "Legends, for example, has more money to offer a band's booking agency than we do. So you have to be a better negotiator."

That means you team up with a radio station like the Q and offer the agency a lower bid coupled with better marketing. According to Sharma, booking with the Q over CFUV means that a 54/40 show, for example, will sell out.

"I don't even book the bands," Sharma said. "And I don't ask SUB employees to walk around wearing logos on their work shirts."

Schwind maintains, however, that while Sharma is a sharp business man, he doesn't know the first thing about the alternative music scene.

"What's more important? Turning a profit or expanding people's minds?" said Schwind, adding that the radio station's new marketing moniker is "Victoria's Public Radio," a change intended to draw more listeners.

As a student-run venture, Vertigo management has an obligation to serve its members first, said Schwind. "And that means booking bands that don't fall into the Top 40s category."

For now, CFUV has booked two shows at Vertigo, while it works with both Steamer's and Thursday's on a regular basis.

Vertigo renovations dirt cheap

Welcome to the new Vertigo, renovated for next to nothing to turn a better profit.

The night club's spiral logo is emblazoned dead-centre on the new hybrid-cork dance floor.

As for the murals, both are garagey muck-ups done for free by local artist Lulu: plain graffiti on the right wall and on the left, a scene that resembles a psychedelic mushroom odyssey with a Haida frog dropped in the left corner.

But the feng shui is oh-so-much freer. Where you once had to suck your.gut in to weave through the mess of chairs, furniture is sparse. You can let your gut hang out, smoke your neighbour's cigarette and pop out the portable Twister map if you like.

Padded lounge chairs have been installed in the back of the bar to give it "a lounge-like feel."

Sharma said the student society didn't pay a dime for the new floor – with a swanky $14,000 retail value – after he struck a deal with the American company, Forbo-Nairn, a subsidiary of United Carpets. They shipped and installed the floor in exchange for the permission to photograph it for promotional use.

A new plexi-glass liquor display case above the bar came at a bargain, said Sharma. "It cost me maybe $50 for the plexi-glass, that's it."

For years, student employees have suggested that Vertigo be transformed into a more casual spot. Now Reinhardt books the space with student groups during the day. After turning it into a lounge, the ESL program uses the space for a coffee social for which Vertigo turns a $1,000 profit.

"Why would you go to Vertigo when you can bar hop downtown?," said Sharma. "We know that. That's why we have to book other functions that will bring people in."

on the spot

Are you going to vote in the UVSS elections? Why or why not?

by Richard Warrington

Marcus Doty
4th year computer science

No, I haven't before. I haven't seen the point in it. I believe other people can vote for me.

Aran Burgess
4th year computer science

Yes, because on the UVic voters list, I can't be drafted for jury duty.

Jen Bisson
3rd year microbiology

Of course I will. The UPass is up again, so it's important to support it.

Sharmeen Khan
4th year social sciences

Yeah, I hear all the cool people vote and I've always wanted to be part of their group.

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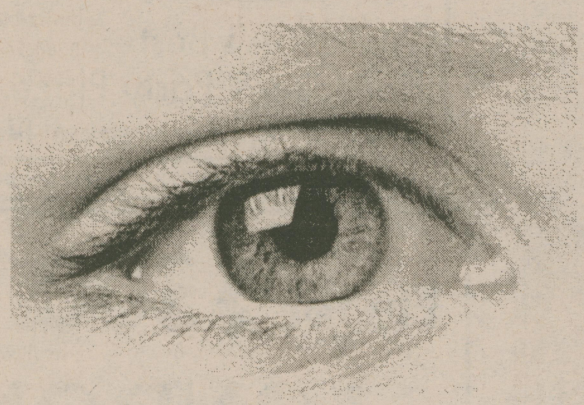

FREE event

Time	UVic Presentation Schedule March 8, 2001
10:00 am	Gateway Country
10:30 am	Ministry of Small Business, Tourism and Culture
11:00 am	Creativity with Technology Panel
12:00 pm	Eatons: Dressing for Success
12:30 pm	Canadian Forces Recruiting
1:00 pm	Schlumberger
1:30 pm	Pivotal Corp
2:00 pm	TBA
2:30 pm	Microsoft: .Net Strategy

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National news briefs

The sky is falling

Was Chicken Little thinking of the Mir space station when he predicted the sky would fall?

Though Russian scientists have predicted that the space station will land harmlessly in the Pacific Ocean at the end of its 15-year orbit, there's a .02 per cent chance that it will land somewhere around 51 degrees 60 minutes south latitude and 51 degrees 60 minutes north latitude.

Simply put, that puts major southern Canadian cities right in the target area for space debris travelling up to 200 km per hour.

The possible effects of such an impact has over 80 countries asking Russia to keep them posted on Mir's status as it is guided back to Earth next month.

The 130-tonne space station will likely reduce to 40 tonnes of fragments weighing up to 700 kg after it burns up during its pass through the atmosphere between March 13 and 18. Heads up!

Rape and sexual slavery recognized as human rights violation

Rape, torture and sexual slavery were finally acknowledged as crimes against humanity on Sunday, when three Bosnian Serb soldiers were convicted by the United Nations war-crimes tribunal at the Hague, Netherlands.

This is the first time anyone has been convicted of such crimes committed during armed conflict.

The atrocities, which took place in the Bosnian town of Foca in 1992 and 1993, were inflicted on Muslim women and girls as young as 12 years old.

During the trial, 16 women testified to gang rapes, beatings and torture that occurred over the span of a year. Thousands of women were bought, sold and rented among soldiers.

Dragoljub Kunarac, 40, Radomir Kovac, 39, and Zoran Vukovic, 39, were sentenced to 28, 20 and 12 years respectively for rape and torture.

Amnesty International and other human rights groups called the decision a landmark, recognizing these actions as part of a systemic attack to intimidate civilians.

No mutton for me, thanks.

Britons have further reason to become or remain vegetarians this week, as new cases of foot-and-mouth disease were found in cattle and sheep.

The newest case of the disease, deadly to ruminant animals, appeared Sunday in the county of Devon on the south coast of England. The Devon farm operates several other farms throughout England; other areas are being investigated as officials fear an epidemic.

Further, these operations deal with farmers across Europe, raising the alarm in other countries who are closely monitoring or burning suspect animals.

The transport of cows and sheep in England was banned since mid-February in hopes of controlling the spread of the disease, which can be transmitted through the air.

Thousands of animals are being slaughtered and burned to avoid further contamination.

compiled by Carmel Ecker

Fish stocks and soggy property at centre of B.C. debate

by Sarah Glen

VICTORIA (CUP) – A handful of waterfront property-owners along Cowichan Lake are protesting a government proposal intended to help depleted fish stocks in the area.

The proposal, put forward by the Cowichan Habitat Fish Renewal Board and supported by the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks plans to raise the level of the dam on Vancouver Island's second largest lake, which would flood many beach-front properties that sit close to the lake shore. Some residents are calling the B.C. government-supported initiative an example of bureaucratic secrecy.

"Of course any changes made to the environment have positive and negative impacts," said Brooke Hodson, a member of Concerned Citizens, a community group of lakeside residents. "What we have here is the government trying to push something through without adequate consultation or information to those of us who live here. I don't see the positive effects."

While Hodson emphasizes that he supports efforts to protect the troubled Chinook salmon stocks that return to spawn each year, he questions the raising of the dam as the only option.

But Brenda Kuecks, chair of the renewal board, who put forward the plan, said raising the dam is the only viable solution. "We're at a friendly stand-off right now," she said. "But through the extensive studies done in the area we know that raising the dam is the only way to go."

The proposal to add 18 inches to the dam could help rehabilitate the salmon stocks by inducing the returning salmon to spawn. The extra water pooled in Cowichan Lake would be slowly pumped into the Cowichan River during the Chinook spawning time in late September and early October.

"These fish are very big and they have to swim through an area that gets really shallow and dry during September," said Ted Burns, a biologist who specializes in Cowichan-area fish habitat. "Adding the extra inches would give them an easier time of it. They'd be home free."

Burns has conducted a study on the variety of ways to regenerate salmon stocks in the area and supports Hodson's view that there are other rehabilitation options available. He suggests running a pipe to funnel cold water from the centre of the lake into the river during August and early September when river water temperatures get very warm.

"These fish like things cool," he said. "When they are ready to spawn the colder water would help them out too."

For now the renewal board plans to raise the level of the dam – if they can get residents on side.

"We aren't going to push anything through without [residents'] support," said Kuecks. "We're tiptoeing through tulips right now."

Concerned Citizens have collected over 400 signatures on a petition against the proposal and Hodson plans to forward it to the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks and the renewal board. There are no plans yet for the two sides to meet anytime soon.

Review puts future Canadian academic jobs at stake, say teachers

by Darren Stewart

OTTAWA (CUP) – A rule forcing Canadian universities to give qualified Canadians first crack at faculty jobs is being reviewed, causing a fierce debate in university circles.

Under the current system, universities must review available and qualified Canadian candidates before looking to American and overseas candidates.

Governments and universities say they must lift this rule in order to prepare for an inevitable bulk of retirements in the coming decade. But teachers and graduate students say that lifting the rule will jeopardize the huge surplus of qualified Canadian doctoral students and graduates who could finally have the opportunities they deserve.

Joel Duff, chair of the Canadian Federation of Students Graduate Council, is trying to mobilize Canadian students to oppose the lifting of the 20-year-old rule and is demanding that governments and university administration allow students at the bargaining table.

"This outcome of this review will affect grad and doctoral students, as well as anybody planning to go into post-graduate studies," said Duff.

He said a change to the rules would also hurt thousands of university staff who've been working part-time and are hoping to get tenure.

Suzanne Potvin, chief of the foreign worker unit at Human Tesources and Development Canada, said said her department's mandate is to ensure that Canadians get a fair opportunity for jobs while allowing Canadian universities to be as competitive and diverse as possible.

"We don't have an actual recipe for this yet," she said. "But we feel that there's got to be a way to find a middle ground."

Potvin said Human Resources will take into account the number of qualified Canadians and compare it to the number of jobs that will become available.

"I really believe that any Canadian person worth his or her salt should be able to get a position [over the next decade]," she said.

But Jim Turk, executive director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers, said the two-tier hiring system was created to provide a compromise and amending it would jeopardize the opportunities for qualified Canadians.

"It's certainly ironic that just when first-time Canadian grads can actually get these jobs we're jettisoning the program," he said.

Turk said his organization is certainly happy to look at other methods of hiring, though they haven't liked any of the compromises proposed so far.

One proposal being considered is to allow simultaneous posting of jobs both domestically and abroad, said Robert Best, director for government relations at the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

"Our view is that we need a system that is more effective, consistent and more timely," he said. "The current system is inefficient and universities can't move quickly enough to hire the candidate they want."

But Duff doesn't think the arguments against the current two-tier system hold any water.

"They're simply giving qualified Canadians the first crack at jobs," he said. "If there are academic superstars from other countries that a university wants to hire, they will find ways to hire them."

He said that a majority of faculty jobs have been locked up since the 1960s, after the last hiring rush, and the next ten years will offer the first opportunities of this nature for many top Canadian grads.

Human Resources estimates that universities will have to hire 32,000 new professors over the next 10 years. There are approximately 4,000 new doctoral graduates in Canada every year. Canadian universities typically hire between 250 and 500 foreign academics for full or part-time work.

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EDITORIAL:

Notes from the Courthouse

It's day five of the United Mexican States vs. Metalclad trial at the B.C. Supreme Court of Appeal in downtown Vancouver. Court 43 is packed with suits – lawyers representing Metalclad, the government of Mexico, the Canadian Attorney General, the government of Quebec and the California-based company Sun Belt Water Co.

The troops are gathered because the government of Mexico is appealing a NAFTA tribunal decision made last August awarding the US waste disposal company $16.5 million for expropriation. The award is the first granted to a company in an investor-to-state lawsuit filed under NAFTA's Chapter 11. The results of the appeal will set an informal precedent for at least seven similar lawsuits filed by private companies, including Sun Belt, which is seeking damages from the signatory federal governments.

If you whittle the incredibly complex case down to its core, the issue is NAFTA's power to supercede domestic law. It's about NAFTA favouring investor rights over the state or municipal government's right to steward their own land and make decisions to protect the health and well-being of their citizens.

The appeal trial isn't easy to follow as NAFTA tribunal proceedings are not "transparent" – you can't get access to filings as you can in the various Canadian courts. Instead, they are treated like international commerical proceeding between private parties, although one or more of the so-called private parties may be federal governments. (The tribunal findings are public information available on the NAFTA website.)

In 1991, Metalclad bought the Mexican waste disposal company Coderin, already operating illegally in the Northern state of San Luis Potosi where there is little industry and much poverty.

When the state governor ordered the site to be closed down, Metalclad took the Mexican federal government to task for giving them permission to reopen the facility in the first place. When the municipal and state courts refused to reverse the decision, Metalclad turned to NAFTA.

The crux of the appeal case begins here: was it Mexico's obligation to ensure that Metalclad understood how to navigate government and courts to get the proper permits, or was the onus on Metalclad? The NAFTA tribunal decision argues that the federal government is responsible for paving the golden road for investors. It's a guarantee which is both highly unrealistic and undemocratic: essentially, it asks the federal government to predict and control both provincial and municipal decisions.

The state governor's decision followed a geological audit reporting an alluvial stream already contaminated by illegal dumping of hazardous toxic waste. The study called for state protection not only of the site in question, but a wider spread of 600,000 acres of land home to several species of endangered cactii. Once the governor created the ecological zone, Metalclad prepared their case accusing the government of an act of expropriation and sought $90 million in compensation. In Oct. 1996, Metalclad Corporation accused the Mexican federal government of violating NAFTA's Chapter 11.

Both Metalclad and Mexican lawyers are making contigency arguments according to either the commerical arbitration act favoured by Mexico, or the international arbitration act favoured by Metalclad. The former body of law offers more grounds for ruling that the NAFTA panel exceeded its authority, and increases the likelihood for a decision to overturn the ruling. The main concern for both parties is whether or not the NAFTA tribunal exceeded its obligations in international law, transparency and expropriation, key legal wording included in Chapter 11.

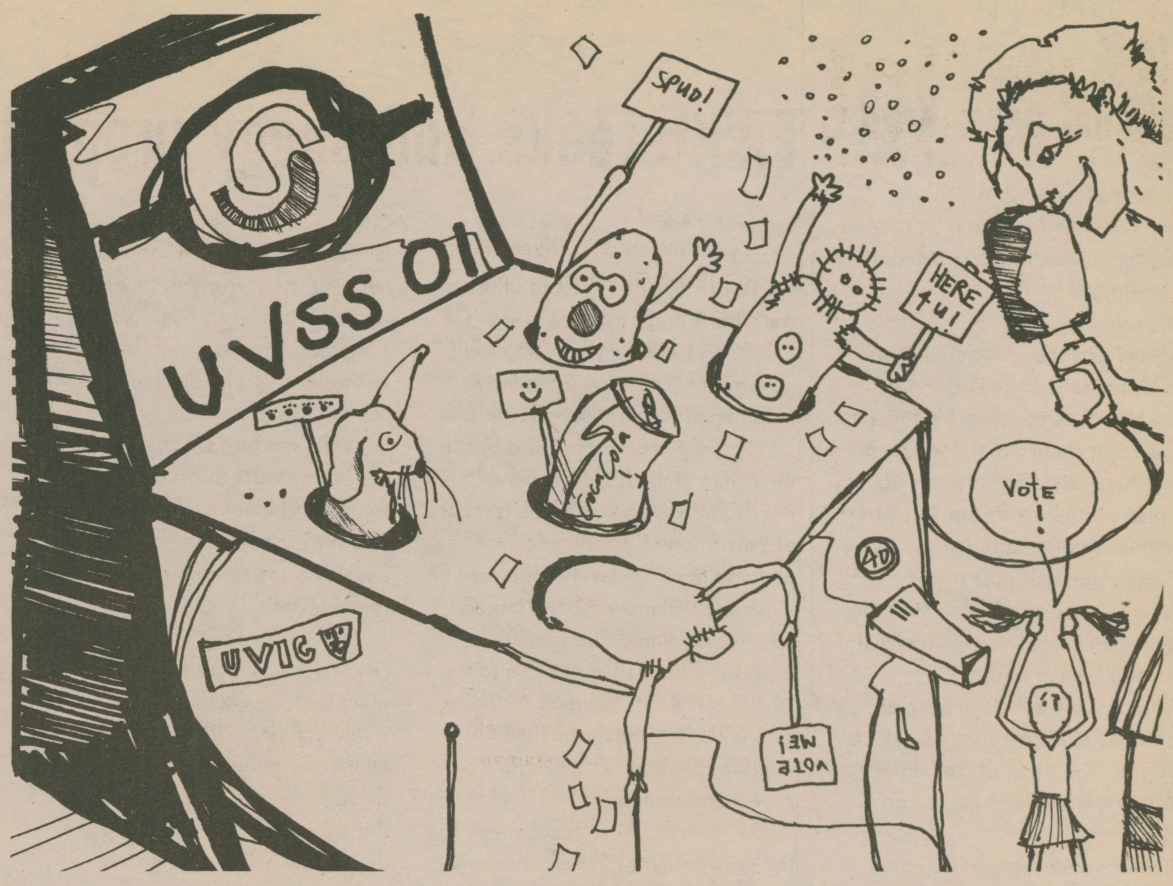
Chapter 11 guarantees investors the right to directly sue governments for compensation when the government in question expropriates private property. Metalclad used Chapter 11 to argue that the state "took" their private property in declaring an ecological zone, an act "tantamount to expropriation." In Chapter 11, private property refers not only to land and physical assets but to the market-determined commercial value of the property, including a company's asset value and future profit earnings, explaining Metalclad's orginal claim for $90 million.

While the trial continues at the corner of Homer and Smithe streets in downtown Vancouver, the people of San Luis Potosi are dealing with birth defects and a toxic dump site in Guadalcazar County that has not yet been cleaned up. They are the same citizens who in 1991 brandished machetes to prevent tractor trailers from unloading more toxic wastes. The munipicality listened, the state governor listened, but the federal government attempted to force the state to reverse the ban. The Mexican federal government is arguing that while its predecessor was in power, Coderin secured a toxic-waste permit while the president's wife was promised a cut in profits.

Welcome to global democracy.

Aside from an assault on environmental regulation, the ruling in favour of Metalclad denies the people of San Luis Potosi the right to protect their health and their land. Moreover, it sets an informal yet dangerous precedent for future cases involving provincial or municipal decisions to protect the health and well being of its citizens. It's an important trial to follow as the FTAA negotiating group on investment rules is drafting the investment chapter behind closed doors as we speak. Due to be ratified in Argentina before the April 2001 Summit of the Americas, the FTAA may likely include an expanded definition of expropriation, fortifying investor rights yet again and moving the world further away from governments founded upon the most basic principles of democracy.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at noon in the SUB B011. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff.



STUDENT VOICE:

Unfair persecution of Peter Verin

by Omar McDadi

Some pressing news has just come to my attention in regards to my good friend Peter Verin. Members of the UVic community are likely to be familiar with Peter's story, or at least know of him. For those unfamiliar, here is a very brief synopsis of Peter's situation.

Peter Verin is a homeless Victoria resident in his early 50s who, for the past 21 years, has been a mainstay on the UVic campus. In this time *Peter has befriended hundreds of* students – sharing with them his vast knowledge of environmental philosophy, social justice and human rights issues.

Beginning in the mid 1990s, Peter hosted two radio programs on CFUV, titled *EarthFirst!* and *What's Left of What's Real?* Every Friday, on *EarthFirst!* Peter and guests would discuss the week's most important issues. Some of the topics examined over the years include: genetically modified foods; alternative energy sources; water management; sewage waste reduction initiatives; deep ecology; alternative transportation; conservation issues in B.C.; global warming; animal rights; green politics; First Nations' right to self-governance; political prisoners; the WTO protests in Seattle; women's rights in lieu of the Montreal Massacre; human rights violations in Indonesia under President Suharto; the Free Tibet movement; the Palestinian/Israeli conflict; and so, so much more.

For the past 21 years Peter has made an earnest living by salvaging used materials from various locations around the UVic campus. Peter's longstanding commitment to reducing societal waste and over-consumption has profoundly influenced a new generation of students that are in search of smarter and less harmful living arrangements. By following Peter's lead, the University community has embarked upon a new era where *sustainability and environmental* ethics are at times viewed to be of equal importance in the coordination of everyday activities.

In the last few years, however, functioning within the University environment has become increasingly difficult for Peter. On numerous occasions Peter has had his belongings removed from the University grounds by facilities management, only to have them end up in the Heartland Dump. Is this any way to treat our elders? Peter has been limited in his effectiveness to salvage goods, network with students, and function in a normal manner: a direct result of continued harassment on the part of university officials. The last few months have seen Peter guard his belongings at all hours of the day for fear of them being confiscated and subsequently transported to the landfill. These continued episodes have deprived Peter from a peaceful existence, and have robbed him of essential personal belongings.

The situation reached a climax last Tuesday (Feb. 20) when two Saanich police officers informed Peter that a motion had been passed, effective immediately, to ban him from all University buildings, except the facilities management office. Peter's displacement was not an overnight occurrence and is the culmination of a strategy that has compromised Peter's dignity and caused him much suffering.

This is a human rights issue. *Peter is an important member of our* community and should be treated with the respect that he rightfully deserves. Just because a person lives their life differently than mainstream society does not give anyone the right to pass judgment on them, let alone displace them from their community.

Please, I urge you to voice your concerns over this human rights tragedy. Write to President David Turpin and let him know that Peter's livelihood is at stake, as he is at risk of losing what has been his only family for the past twenty-one years: the UVic community. Also let President Turpin know that banning Peter from the University grounds is unfair and lacks compassion, and that any problems between Peter and the University establishment can and will be worked out, by input from voices across the entire campus – not just a select few decision makers.

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If you are interested in working for *The Martlet Publishing Society* as **Editor-in-Chief, Managing Editor or Production Co-ordinator,** please drop a résumé off at *the Martlet* office in B011 of the SUB building by 4:30 p.m. Feb. 23. We will not accept résumés by fax or email.

For details call **Gillian or Meesha** at 721-8361. Drop by the office for a full job description.

Fee levy refund cheque dispersal is back – Thursday, March 15 noon-4:30 p.m.
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[2000/2001]
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Letters: *the martlet* has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and student number for verification. Letters must be 200 words maximum. **Deadline** for letters is noon on the Friday before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

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LETTERS:

Maxim's bad

I would like to offer my public thanks to SUBtext for withdrawing a selection of magazines featuring content degrading to queer students from their shelves. This action was taken on an appeal from UVic Pride and the Women's Centre. Our organization had received a number of complaints related to the content and covers of *Maxim*, *FHM* and *Stuff* magazines.

SUBtext, as a service of the UVSS, has a responsibility to uphold the principles of nondiscrimination, including the status of women and sexual minorities. After careful consultation of both staff and students, SUBtext was able to oblige our request and thanked us for bringing it to their attention.

Some may allege that the withdrawal of these magazines constitutes a ban on them as publications and the material they represent. A decision to stop carrying these magazines could not be construed to be a ban, as they are certainly available from the University Bookstore. Rather the decision is an attempt to ensure a general feeling of safety and comfort within the Student Union Building, and SUBtext specifically.

Thank you again to SUBtext for supporting both our membership and that of the Women's Centre in their struggle for nondiscrimination.

Dan Kerr, UVic Pride Office Coordinator

No, it's not!

Initially, I thought the intent of John Thompson's brief article in the Feb. 8 issue of *the Martlet* entitled "SUBtext yanks *Maxim* off shelves" might be to initiate uncontrollable laughter in anyone who was fortunate enough to read it. But I was wrong. It appears that *Maxim*, *Stuff* and *FHM* will be on permanent vacation from the SUB. (These three magazines are similar in content so I will collectively refer to them when I speak of *Maxim*.)

Granted, *Maxim* was not exactly a best seller (11 copies sold since Nov.) and this by itself would have been a reasonable and defensible justification for yanking it off the shelves (although I would be curious to know the individual sales figures for what is still being sold to determine if this number is significantly low). Of course, this was not the primary reason cited for removing *Maxim*. Rather, it appears that some of the staff found the content offensive, as do the Women's Centre and the Pride Collective. Clearly, this is a poor justification for discontinuing sales of *Maxim* and its two close relatives.

The following are reasons why I feel this way:

1) *Maxim* is legal to purchase/possess, and is enjoyed by myself as well as many other males AND females.

2) Individuals vary in composition and in thought and will subsequently vary in what offends them.

3) I am offended by the content of many of the magazines that the SUBtext sells (particularly the ones that the said offended groups would likely endorse) but I do not feel that they should be made unavailable because of this opinion. Rather, I simply choose not to read them and correspondingly avoid the discomfort of being offended.

4) I think most individuals would agree that the said groups are hardly qualified to provide an accurate litmus for what is and what is not offensive. I even find it a little ironic that these two groups are in favour of such censorship.

5) I also find it curious that these individuals are so troubled by magazines like *Maxim* that they read them for content and get themselves all worked up. Surely there must be more important things to spend time on and/or complain about.

In summary, *Maxim* is legal and enjoyed by many. Everyone gets offended for one reason or another and a successful strategy might be to avoid written material that one finds offensive. I would like to see *Maxim*, *Stuff* and *FHM* return to SUBtext. And if you do not like them? Do not read them!

D. Lyons

Yes it is!

On Thurs. Jan. 11, 2001, the UVSS Women's Centre and UVic Pride wrote to Mr. Joyce, the manager of SUBtext to express our concerns about the content of *Maxim* magazine.

We at the Women's Centre find that the content of *Maxim* magazine distorts women's bodies, sexualities and beauty for the purposes of the male gaze. At the same time, it portrays men as objectifiers of women. In addition, since *Maxim* has hired a new editor, the content has become even more crude and offensive. That said, we understand the role SUBtext plays offering services to students. We appreciate and utilize the services of SUBtext frequently. However, it is important to remember that SUBtext is not a mainstream for-profit business. Sadly, *Maxim* magazine can be purchased anywhere. As a non-profit, student-run and owned operation, we feel that SUBtext should offer an alternative. This alternative is one that respects the space and issues of marginalized peoples.

There have been concerns that SUBtext carries other magazines that may portray objectionable images, such as those found in women's and queer magazines. We feel that criticism towards these magazines cannot be leveled equally. Magazines that are produced by and for marginalized groups do not have equal footing with magazines produced by men for men. For example, while *Cosmopolitan* may contain questionable material, the publication is a woman produced magazine with a woman-centered focus. This is not the case with *Maxim* where men use and objectify women for male entertainment. In short, the two cannot be compared.

Currently, SUBtext does offer a variety of alternative reading materials that cannot be found elsewhere. For this we are appreciative. We were pleased to receive an immensely supportive letter of response from Mr. Joyce, in which he echoed our concerns and, as a result, decided to pull the magazines from the shelf. To paraphrase, Mr. Joyce made the eloquent point that the social costs couldn't be justified by the revenue generated by *Maxim*. His solidarity strengthens our resolve to claim a safe and respectful space for all members of the student community.

The UVSS Women's Centre Collective

The Verin situation

In losing Peter Verin, UVic has lost a dynamic thinker. His years of hosting *Earth First*, his radio show, contributed to the campus' atmosphere of critical discourse. Peter was eager for student involvement on his show – he offered me the experience of guest-speaking alongside expert panelists in broadcasts on grizzly hunting, the WTO protests and alternative transport, among others. Chronically misunderstood, Peter had his slot cancelled after differences with management.

But Peter persevered: though off the airwaves he continued his discussions around campus, still stretching minds and deconstructing society. He is an intelligent, if erratic man, and dedicated to a greater cause than mere survival. When not reclaiming unrecycled goods or attending free lectures, he was a willing counselor for students in need of a sympathetic ear.

But the services he offers are overlooked by campus authorities who take offence to his presence. On campus since 1984, Peter was finally ousted by an an orchestrated anti-Verin campaign. I overheard a disturbing conversation between security officers last week (while having my bike locked in their compound) in which they discussed means of removing Peter from campus.

Peter is only a thorn in the side of those who choose to view him as such, who ignore valid contribution in favour of dogmatic intolerance. True, the university shouldn't invite a vagrant community, but Peter's tireless work in promoting academic discourse and environmental health should be acknowledged, and rewarded.

The university could offer Peter some dignity and a storage shed, in recognition of the garbage sorting role he plays. If not, Peter's maligners at Campus Security should accept responsibility and trade their jobs for that of garbage sorting, to understand Peter's admirable humility and work ethic. The university might hire a roving counselor to appreciate the service Peter provided without charge.

Peter has been driven to misery and harder times. As they chortle in victory, UVic authorities have deprived a noble man of dignity and the campus community of a valuable contributor.

Tim Harvey

UVSS governance load of bull

A few weeks ago Scott Hart, the President of UVic's NDP Club, wrote an honest and heartfelt letter regarding the extraordinarily poor state of student government on campus. As someone who has served on the UVSS Board of Directors for almost a year now, I can confirm his concerns about the organization.

Throughout this year, I, along with a few other critical thinkers on the Board, have tried to convince the powers that be in the UVSS that they cannot continue to alienate students en masse with frivolous policies and student vs. student politics. We have pushed for reasonable change within the structure and policies of the UVSS. We have been disregarded by other members of the Board, and particularly certain members of the UVSS Executive, for having divergent viewpoints and stimulating debate.

As it currently stands, the UVSS is an organization students know little about. Many UVic students complete their degree with virtually no idea of what goes on in the SUB. Most are unaware of the self-serving political policies and activities carried out by the UVSS Executive.

Trying to change the nature of UVSS organization is almost as difficult as trying to understand it. Most UVSS committees meet during class hours, making it impractical for students to participate in the process. This situation is further aggravated by very poor communication from the Executive.

For these reasons Scott Hart and myself, along with a number of other people, have formed an organization called Students for a Progressive Unified Democracy. We are a group dedicated to liberating the campus from the elite extremists that claim to represent us as students, and return the UVSS to its rightful owners – the students.

S.P.U.D. is a pan-partisan coalition of people with divergent political ideologies, but at least one thing in common: we believe that free debate, transparent leadership and the welcomed participation of all UVic students is the best solution to the quandary of trying to represent such a diverse campus.

Andrew McVie

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John Threfall: *How to freelance for the arts, 1 p.m. B025*

Anita Schoepp: *Organizing for indy media, 2 p.m. B025*

Christina Harris: *Design for magazine and newspapers, 3 p.m. B025*

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THE SEARCH FOR THE PERFECT WOMAN
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Looking to surprise the little missis with something that
savs hot and sexy? These ladies sav, "Good luck!"
Says Her
Flings should always be
stress-free, so cut the
emotional b.s.

A hierarchy of envy:

Maxim magazine and the new men's market

by Brad Buie

"Tame the cunt. Respect the cock." These words echo in my mind as I flip through the latest issue of *Maxim*. *Magnolia's* T.J. Mackey is giving his seminar on "Seduce and Destroy." An audience of men sits in the dark, their self-esteem in disrepair, receiving instruction on how to get a piece. "Tame the cunt. Respect the cock." They all hoot and cheer. I turn the page half expecting to see an ad like it – and there is: the *Maxim* guide to learning enough secrets to "wield a completely unfair advantage over women," with a money-back guarantee. Also in this issue: how to upgrade your girlfriend, throw an orgy, and jury-rig anything like MacGyver.

This is the new men's magazine, and it's outselling just about everything except *Playboy*. First published in Britain, then in North America in 1997, *Maxim* is in the vanguard of magazines with designs on men ages 18 to 32. Others include *Stuff, Loaded, FHM, Gear*, and *Umm*. But *Maxim* has the most canny sense of its target demographic: with a circulation of 2.2 million in the first half of 2000, it tops *Men's Health* at 1.6 million, formerly the best selling men's magazine.

A hefty couple hundred glossy pages, *Maxim* might at first glance be mistaken for one of the numerous women's mags like *Cosmo* or *Vogue*. The cover boasts articles for sex tips and lingerie fashions while the headlines run justified around the model's provactively posed shoulders and hips, her face airbrushed to a white hot shine.

Six words spell it out across the top border: Sex Sports Beer Gadgets Clothes Fitness.

There it is given: man as the sum of his parts. After all, undisclosed, unarticulated wants might prove too elusive for marketers.

Here lies the success of the magazine: it sticks to careful consumer definitions and the stories and attitudes that promote them. A two page ad for Bacardi asks, "Strip clubs?" and the following page reads, "A man's way of supporting the arts." An ad for Amstel asks its audience to "Think of it as a beer that's not in touch with its feminine side." The ads, of course, don't sell beer but a masculine image – one that plays upon the vulnerability of male readers who ask themselves, in the spirit of the ad, am I a Big Pussy?

What makes *Maxim* distinct from its predecessors *GQ* and *Playboy* is its tone. Publisher Lance Ford believes "the tone of the old guard, the *GQ*'s and *Playboy*'s, is snooty. They speak down to their audience. All they really do is deliver an exclusive band of readers to an exclusive band of advertisers. We designed *Maxim* to be irreverent first – to embody the kind of humour you saw in Seinfeld."

Such irreverent assertations of manliness speak of a male zeitgeist that has been thwarted, men who feel their strength has sunk in the rise of women's solidarity and progress, as though the genders were at either ends of a scale. In *Maxim*, these attitudes are given voice. The perception of *Playboy* as snooty comes from a resentment of the illusory patriarchal paradises where women frolicked as meek bunnies ready to service. The new *Magnolia*-inspired equation declare that women are an animal not so tame, but who need to be tamed so that men can recoup their power. Hence the cheer, "Tame the cunt."

This is the call of the new men's magazines, uniting men the world over in a gloriously pathetic attempt to return to a state of old-school manhood, transported by the satire, mockery and sarcasm. Ultimately, the magazines propose a masculine ideal that is no longer defensible. But irony keeps them from having to defend themselves: they make the joke on themselves. The Brits call this new masculinity Laddism – a carpe diem existence of excessive drinking, shagging and watching a lot of football. In many ways, Laddism embodies the teen movie portrayal of the care-free college lifestyle. The masculine stereotype is recycled and reasserted to define The Way Men Are: violent, greedy, obnoxious, dominating and unemotional. A recent article on the military published in *Stuff* proclaims that "war is fun" and jokes about "feminists hiding in the attic" when the fighting breaks out.

Yet it is precisely the ironic tone and lack of political correctness which attracts readers to *Maxim*. Both men and women readers say that they value its honesty because it doesn't pander to an abstract ideology that denies the sexualities of men and women. One woman admitted that she would rather read a men's magazine than one marketed to women for that very reason.

But employees at SUBtext, UVic's student-run bookstore, disagree. They find the depiction of women in *Maxim* so offensive that they pulled it off the shelves. Both the Women's Centre and the Pride Collective back the decision and are happy to see it pulled.

Despite the recycling of old stereotypes, the new men's magazines don't deny womens' increased autonomy and power. They co-opt it. Images of US soccer

Men's magazines feature women as completed, ready-to-own products. Women's magazines focus on getting that product ready for the market: how to transform oneself in the terms of the market to make oneself the most desirable product.

Karen Duder

player Brandi Chastain posing nude for *Gear* magazine are seen as a victory for women. "Men's magazines still objectify women, but they now include, subvert and appropriate women's arguments for autonomous female sexuality, women's access to and ownership of pornography and erotica and female agency," says UVic History of Sexuality professor Karen Duder.

Women's power in a magazine like *Maxim* gets siphoned through a male looking-glass where female sexuality is represented as their one celebrated freedom, but any other freedoms are perceived as threats to manlihood and male sexuality. Such appropriation of women's power has made its way into the magazine advertisements for videogames featuring hardcore kick-ass heroines like the "beautiful, hard-nosed" Tanya with machine gun hoisted on her shoulder and an ammunition belt hanging from her hip. "With her on your side you don't have to worry about protection. She's got you covered!" A tight body and good aim, Tanya, the powerful woman, is constructed for male playing pleasure.

****

So long as *Playboy* outsells all other men's magazines, *Maxim* is under pressure to push the edge in an effort to compete. Images of women in these magazines are not porn, officially. That you can buy *Maxim* or *FHM*, among others, at the local 7 Eleven, Thrifty's, as well as the UVic Bookstore, lends them an air of legitimacy.

What is objectionable about these magazines is not sex per se, but the way in which images of women are constructed. "The men's magazines feature women as completed, ready-to-own products," says Duder. "Women's magazines focus on getting that product ready for the market: how to transform oneself in the terms of the market to make oneself the most desirable product."

Photo collections of the best or most perfect women show page after page of lank-armed and long-shanked models, their hands closing over their breasts as though to dam in the overflow of sex. As with anything constructed as a product to be sold, it has to be advertised as superior to products like it. So a woman cannot be beautiful, only more or less beautiful than other women. Men are then placed in a mode of comparison, and thereby within a hierarchy of envy according to whom they can or cannot attract.

Making these stereotypical masculine qualities "virtues" fits in well with the postmodern outlook of these magazines. The emphasis on the visual over the textual means that there is nothing important to say, no positive vision to put forward, as men have come to their own historical end.

"We are moving from a nation of readers to a nation of viewers," says *Maxim* editor Mike Souter. This transition implies that the other four senses, senses that can be evoked through language, are dead. The absence of bodily pleasure or pain, the presence of strictly visual pleasure, leaves us without the capacity to feel. The real then becomes the hyper-real.

For the reader of *Maxim*, a feature on the tragedy of the Kursk submarine conveys only a grim fascination. Information is only entertaining for its irrelevance and hypothetical unreality, like how to win the Indy 500 or travel back in time. The punch line caption is a metaphor for the whole magazine: a picture is worth a dozen words or less.

The gaze on men is not like the gaze on women. Except for a few ads for muscle-building products, men's bodies have not been made an object of critical attention the way women's have. Rather than turning the gaze inward to reflect on what it means to be a man, these magazines turn up the intensity of the external gaze. Everything is *Stuff* to be consumed, whether it is a technological gadget or a person, and all stuff quickly becomes obsolete. The higher resolution graphics or the younger, smoother-skinned women replace the endlessly inferior models who came before. Irony is, the consumer, the male reader, is also objectified.

Susan Faludi writes in *Stiffed: The Betrayal of American Men* that men have become enslaved to glamour as a result of their power striving. "[This] has led to a society drained of context, saturated with competitive individualism and robbed of craft or utility." The magazines create a society ruled by "commercial values that revolve around who has the most, the best, the biggest, and the fastest." Nowhere is this ethos more concentrated than in the pages of the new men's magazines. Their popularity means that more men than ever before are invited into a collective underpinned by competitive individualism. Men will never gain a sense of community as readers – not among themselves or with women. This brittle simplicity suits advertisers just fine, thank you. So long as a distance between men and women is maintained through misunderstanding, products will be bought to alleviate their lack.

CONCERT REVIEW

54-40 blow off steam at Vertigo

Who cares if you have sex when you've got Vancouver rock icons?

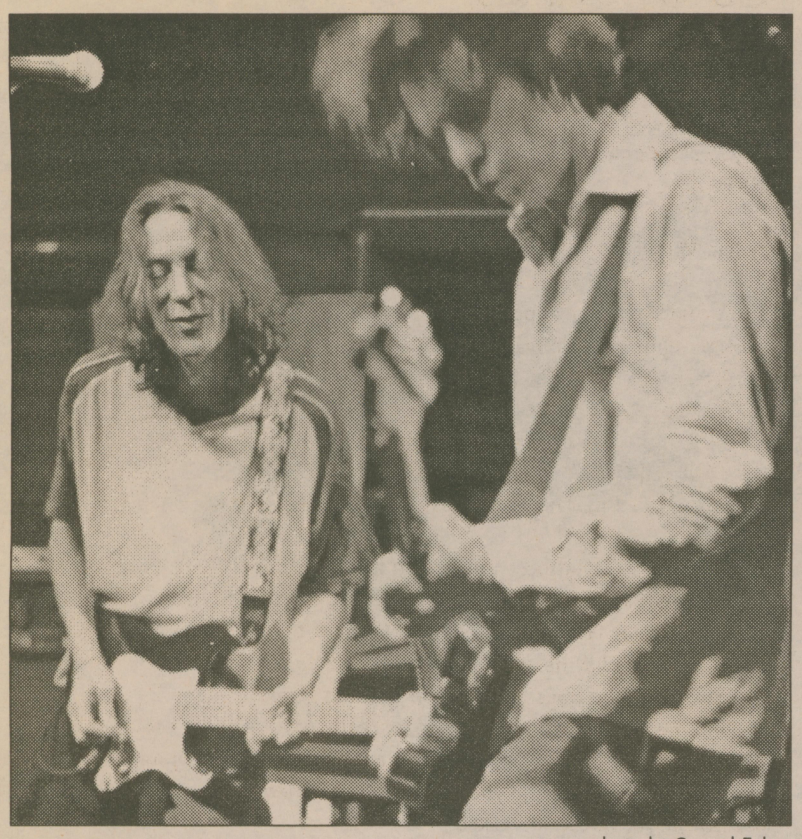

photo by Carmel Ecker

by Jeremy Shragge

The last time I saw Canadian rock icons 54-40 play, I was so bored with the show that I left mid-way through to go shag on the lawn of the Alberta Legislature. So, needless to say, it was with no shortage of skepticism that I agreed to cover the Victoria stop of their current nationwide tour.

I have never been much of a fan of the venerable Vancouver four-some. Their "hard pop sometimes punky" style of rock and roll has always struck me as dull. Except for a few select songs off of their uncharacteristically edgy 1992 release of *Dear Dear* ("Nice 2 Luv U" and "She La"), the band's work usually registered in my brain as soulless, overplayed, CANCON radio filler.

No Longer. After last weekend's gig at Vertigo, I am reborn. I repent all my past sins and transgressions. My days of ambivalence toward 54-40 are over.

54-40 played their asses off; my attention wavered for nary a moment.

Neil Osborne and company (Brad Merritt, Phil Comparelli and Matt Johnson) played their asses off last Saturday night; my attention wavered for nary a moment.

Since Jan. 17, the band has traveled from Kingston to Charlottetown, back to Buffalo and then straight across the West. The eight- province, 26-stop tour, in support of their 13th album, *Casual Viewing*, wrapped up Sunday in Nanaimo.

As Osborne, the group's lead singer and song writer noted to the sell-out crowd at UVic, "We've been playing six days a week for six weeks." If they were tired, however, it you couldn't tell.

After a groovy, warm-up set by Vancouver's Paloma (imagine an under-produced Morcheeba), who have opened throughout *The Casual Viewin' Pop Experience* tour (as well as 54-40's 1999 *Since When* tour), the boys hit the stage with a fired-up rendition of the Osborne-led "Baby Ran." From there things only got better.

It was the band's brilliant use of both the live music format and the intimate confines of a small club that made this a quality show. At far too many concetrs, groups simply mail in carbon copy performances of their recorded tunes. No energy, no improvisation, no medleys, no entertainment. In addition, large venues can rob a band of their desire to get up and work for an audience. This is how I remember 54-40's shows at the Edmonton Shaw Conference Centre in 1997 and 1999.

On this night, however, the band appeared to have as much fun, delivering energetic, off-beat, creative versions of their songs, as the throng of supporters did hearing them.

Especially memorable performances included the gradual, "Janga-like" exit of the band into their pre-encore break with "Ocean Pearl;" a sick acoustic-then-trumpet-then-electric led version of "One Gun," with Paloma's Coco Love Alcorn adding her powerful sultry voice to the mix; and a hyper-aggressive rendition of "She La," enigmatically introduced by Osborne on acoustic guitar.

Saturday was the most fun I have ever had at a 54-40 gig. So good in fact that I am considering purchasing their 1999 double live album *Heavy Mellow*.

As much fun as outdoor sex is, this show was definitely a worthy alternative.

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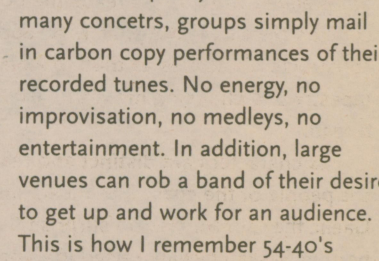

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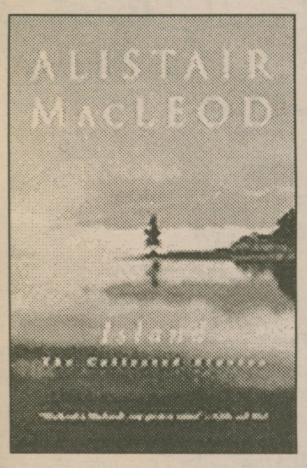
BOOK REVIEW

Alistair MacLeod's *Island* stands alone



The Island: The Collected Stories
Alistair MacLeod
Norton

by Miguel R. MacDonald

A fisher's boots on the east coast do not step or pace or walk but instead galumph along sands of a beach. At least that's what Alistair MacLeod had to say in the 1968 short story "The Boat," anthologized in *Island: The Collected Stories*.

This 16-story hardcover collection covers over 30 years of master Canadian fiction writer MacLeod.

The anthology is meant to serve as "a tribute to one of our greatest writers." So reads the book jacket and so concurs *the Globe and Mail*. MacLeod earns this title – he constructs his stories as though working with a gigantic tapestry and choosing his words like so many ends of thread.

His characters are distinct and real. MacLeod loves the people of the coast. He knows them and knows the Gaelic they speak. It is no surprise that although he was born in Saskatchewan, raised in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and has lived as a fisher, logger and miner.

He tells stories of fishers on the East Coast with the experience of a person who has seen and smelt the ocean and felt the burn of salt water in their eyes:

"The men moved in their own frenzy as if to keep pace. Hooks snagged in their thumbs and the singing, sizzling lines burned through the calluses on their hands. The fish filled the bottom of the boat and began to rise in a blue-green, flopping, snapping mass to the level of the men's knees. And then, suddenly, they were gone."

Detailed passages like this fill each story and walk the reader through a day of lobster fishing or the tending of a lighthouse. MacLeod works and reworks images and details throughout the collection, but visits each one in a new and completely different way. In one instance, he tells his readers about the sea as the murderer of a little boy's father:

"But neither is it easy to know that your father was found on November twenty-eighth, ten miles to the north and wedged between two boulders at the base of the rock-strewn cliffs where he had been hurled and slammed so many many times. His hands were shredded ribbons, as were his feet which had lost their boots to the suction of the sea, and his shoulders came apart in our hands when we tried to move him from the rocks."

The seaside is also a friendly place where MacLeod's various families live and survive, but hardly ever happily, perhaps only because that is the nature of the short story.

> The characters in his stories are unhappy or innocent or unsuspecting, but all real.

The stories in *Island* are not necessarily about the author, but from the author. MacLeod sees the oceans as a source of mystery, loves dogs immensely, differentiates between the smell of dog and fish semen, and mourns for his beloved East Coast.

In "Island," "The Boat" and "Clearances," characters all must leave their coastal homes. A fisher's son abandons the sea to become a university professor. A lighthouse keeper is replaced with an automated device. A man sells off his land to German investors. Tourists replace fishers.

There is a vain of inevitable change running through many of these stories that mingles with the sadness of reflection.

The characters in his stories are unhappy or innocent or unsuspecting, but all real. They are people proud of their Gaelic tradition, their coastal home and their way of life. These are MacLeod's people. Their stories are sad treasures wrapped in fishnets and coated with Gaelic. They smell of jumping fish and coal dust and cigarettes. They will leave your hands callused, bleeding and stinging with salt.

Give yourself some time with this anthology. After you read one story put the book down for a while and allow it to sink in. This is the best lobster you've ever had. Savour it accordingly.

CD REVIEWS

Duelling Canadian rockers....

City Rocks: Canada
MKTV

by Jeff Werner

Put my neck on the choppin' block and start swingin' that shimmering, singing axe 'cause I'm as thrilled as a headless chicken about *City Rocks: Canada*.

The compilation of classic Canadiana Rock will make you happier than a pig in Saskatchewan shit. This is the best thing to happen to our country since *SCTV*.

Why, you could tattoo an American flag on my ass and call me Dubya and I'd still rock out to *City Rocks: Canada* with classic tunes like "Sunglasses at Night" by Corey Hart and "American Woman" by The Guess Who. There's also B.T.O., April Wine and Men Without Hats.

Come on! Who doesn't love Men Without Hats!?

Find me a compilation of late 1970s/early 1980s electric pop rock with a better cover drawing of Joe Canada in a maple leaf jacket, orange dreadlocks and an electric guitar, and you can tattoo an American flag on my ass and call me Dubya! No questions asked!

And if you're really into rock compilations advertised on daytime tv, then sell the cow and buy *City Rocks: Boston* and its sibling rival *City Rocks: New York*.

You can even go online and vote which city is better at www.bands.com.

The World According to Gob
Nettwerk Records

by Alistair Howard

Gob has lost me.

Their latest album, *The World According to Gob*, is little more than a poor attempt to achieve trendy radio-rock stardom. It's the Langley quartet's first release under the major label Nettwerk Records.

Sharing the same management as other weak Canadian rock bands such as the Barenaked Ladies, Moist and Treble Charger has severely harmed Gob's ability to put out a good punk rock record.

The first single, "I Hear You Calling," is by far the best song out of a group of horrible melodic punk rock whines played at half speed. The catchy chorus is sure to stick in the head and annoy anyone who listens to it.

Gob, however, claims to be expanding their sound.

"In the old days, bands like NOFX were getting played in the van. Now that doesn't get played in the van."

Gabe, the band's drummer, explains, "You're so limited when you're playing a song a thousand miles an hour."

Unfortunately, Gob misses the fact that their talent lies in playing songs a thousand miles an hour.

The World According to Gob is not even worth downloading off Napster. If you want to check them out in their prime, pick up *Too Late... No Friends*.

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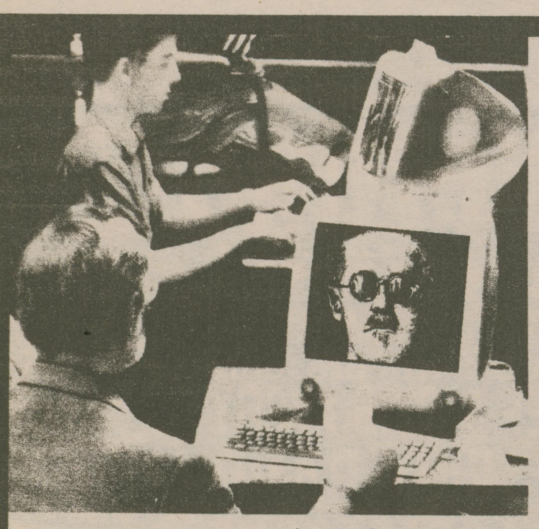

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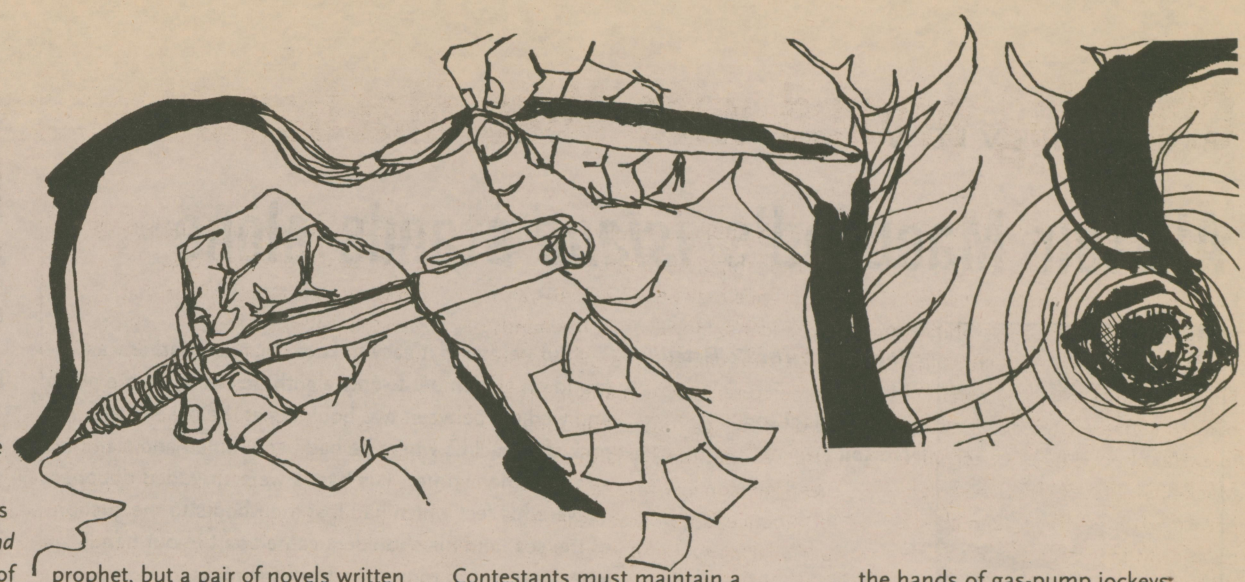
ARTS FEATURE

Making life surreal

Redefining fact with fiction in media



by Steven Bleek

Where science fiction goes, reality is doomed to follow. The recent obsession with reality-based television shows such as *Survivor* and *Temptation Island* only further blurs the line separating the real from the illusory.

In 1971, J.G.Ballard, British science fiction writer and pilot supreme of psychic inner space, observed: "Everything is becoming science fiction. From the margins of an invisible literature has sprung the intact reality of the twentieth century.

What the writers of modern science fiction invent today – you and I will do tomorrow – or more exactly in about ten years time, though the gap is narrowing."

As television continues to blur the edges of real-unreal, as the line separating viewer and participant increasingly dissipates, only the annals of history will record our failure to recognize the ominous predictions of the century's most prophetic writer. And no, I am not talking about George Orwell.

In 1999, I was leafing through a *Time* magazine calendar featuring the most important people of the twentieth century. Among those praised for their inestimable influence was Pablo Picasso. The caption beneath the photograph read: Like no one else before or since, Picasso defined his century as much as his century defined him. The statement left me contemplating the power of art and the perceptual instinct of a man who could change the shape of the world even as the world shaped him in turn. Two years and one episode of *Temptation Island* later I realized the only other artist of the century who can make the same claim is Stephen King.

Long dismissed by critics and academics alike as a pulp writer devoid of literary merit, King continues to suffer through one best seller after another while lamenting a lack of critical acclaim. Two years ago the king of horror released a new book which was aggressively marketed as a literary work, an attempt to bridge the gulf separating King from his more academically renowned if less financially rewarded peers. As a work of literature the book flopped, but like most of King's books, *Bag of Bones* was praised for characters who breathed life right off the page. However, it is neither his latest nor even his best known work which mark King as the century's most inimitable and terrifying social prophet, but a pair of novels written as a university freshman and published under the pseudonym Richard Bachman.

The sought after prize in *The Running Man* – like *The Long Walk*, like *Survivor*, like *Temptation Island* – is no less than Paradise itself. Fabulous wealth and everlasting fame. But everyone wants to succeed, and what's the matter with wanting a million dollars and the big house and the fancy car and a beautiful mate? Nothing.

As Bachman, King's subject matter concentrated less on terrors imposed by an external landscape and focussed instead on the surreal topography of the collective unconscious. The best of the so-called Bachman books, set in an America of the not too distant future, is *The Long Walk*. The book's title refers to America's most popular game show of the same name, where the contestants literally walk 'til they drop, and the last man standing wins the prize of his wildest dreams. The contestants consist of America's finest young men, who are chosen following a lengthy selection procedure à la *Survivor*.

The rules of the *Walk* are simple. Contestants must maintain a minimum speed of four miles per hour. A drop in speed below this benchmark results in a warning.

Four warnings in an hour and the walkers are shot where they stand.

The Long Walk winds its way through the heartland of rural America. At all times the walkers are closely monitored by soldiers wearing mirrored sunglasses astride military halftracks. People lining the sidewalks and highways take on a nightmarish aspect, the faces of Coliseum spectators looking fondly down as lions crunch their way through Christian bone and gristle. The walkers cover hundreds of miles, exhausting the last of their resources. They lurch on until there is nothing but skull-faced apparitions plodding after some Holy Grail in the land of the free and the home of the brave. It's paradise or death in the mythical land of milk and honey.

Regrettably, the next best of the Bachman books, *The Running Man*, owes most of its notoriety to the movie of the same name. Although book and movie both concern a futuristic game show – In the year 2025, America's best men don't run for president, they run for their lives! – the similarity ends here.

Schwarzenneger's steroid-laden portrayal of a genetic superman battling flame-throwing, chainsaw-wielding maniacs bears no resemblance to King's protagonist of the same name. Ben Richards is an ordinary man with a wife and a sick child and has no means of supporting either. After an intensive selection process Richards is chosen as one of three "runners" who will be given a 24-hour head start to lose themselves in the bowels of a futuristic America. Far more ominous than the movie, Richards' antagonists in the novel are as ubiquitous and omni-present as his fellow American citizens. Throughout the novel, Richards risks discovery at the hands of gas-pump jockeys, sedate hairstylists and kindly grandmothers, all of them lusting after fabulous prizes and a moment in the spotlight.

The sought-after prize in *The Running Man* – like *The Long Walk*, like *Survivor*, like *Temptation Island* – is no less than Paradise itself. Fabulous wealth and everlasting fame. But everyone wants to succeed, and what's the matter with wanting a million dollars and the big house and the fancy car and a beautiful mate? Nothing. Except it's not the glamour of the mythical good life that explains the success of the new breed of television shows like *Survivor* or *Temptation Island*; after all, how many of the devoted really believe they'll ever get on the show – or even want to for that matter?

The attraction, as Stephen King recognized over a quarter of a century ago, lies within our limited capacity for fantasy and a need to measure our own struggle against the void. In a world where economic necessity forces us to share the greater part of our lives with strangers, there is something comforting about watching a cast of beautiful people struggle with the same choices which confront us every day. Consumed by the petty dramas of our own existence, nobody notices that shows like *Survivor* and *Temptation Island* have changed only the setting. Beyond the tropical sunsets and the beautiful people that none of us can ever be, we are linked by a dream of a world without suffering and a compulsion to witness the shared human misery of the one we inhabit. In the words of William Carlos Williams: Pick up the edges of your gowns, Ladies, we are going through hell.

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Clowning around with Mike MacDonald

by Simon Glezos

I wanted to start this article with some sort of comparison. Stand-up comedy gets such short-shrift in North America that I figured I needed some sort of clever allegory to explain how much impact Mike MacDonald has had on Canadian comedy. The best I've been able to come with is to refer to him as the Jimi Hendrix of the Canadian comedic scene, without the drug habit and untimely death. But even that doesn't tell the whole story.

Now I see a lot of kids coming up that are doing all this silly or irrelevant humour that's not true... The whole idea was to get good enough so that if they shot you with sodium pentathol the act would be the same.

Mike MacDonald

MacDonald has been a fixture on the Canadian comedy scene for well over two decades now, playing in comedy clubs and theatres across the country. He's done several specials for the CBC, as well as for American comedy channels. But last Saturday night, he came to lowly old Victoria to ply his trade.

Macdonald started doing stand-up around the Ottawa area before they even had a comedy club, playing to punk and heavy metal audiences during intermissions at shows.

"The punk audience taught me the importance of editing. If they didn't like something, they'd throw a beer bottle at me and I'd move on to the next subject."

MacDonald points out that his starting out before there was a codified system and club infrastructure had its advantages over the current saturation of comedy in Canada.

"Starting out I could get about an hour's worth of time just about anywhere I wanted to," said Macdonald. "Nowadays you've got kids struggling to get five minutes every two weeks. It's impossible to get good like that."

MacDonald's act tends towards most of the expected stand-up comedy subjects: family, relationships, technology, the difference between Canadians and Americans. However, in the hands of such a practiced professional, these ideas come out fresh and interesting, and blindingly funny. MacDonald stresses that the key is to always keep the comedy true to his real life experience, a trait that he feels is sadly lacking in a lot of today's comedians.

"Now I see a lot of kids coming up that are doing all this silly or irrelevant humour that's not true. It's not true to them. If it's good for them then that's fine. But it's distressing that there's not really anybody coming up that's true to themselves. The whole idea was to get good enough so that if they shot you up with sodium pentathol the act would be the same."

Another dominant theme in MacDonald's act is a surprisingly socially relevant mindset. Several of his comedy scripts seek to skewer racism and get laughs at the same time.

One particular joke revolved around homophobia where MacDonald relays a conversation with his wife wherein he decided "Straight guys are afraid of gay guys because they're afraid that gay guys are going to treat straight guys the way that straight guys treat women."

This proclivity often comes out when MacDonald talks about one of his favourite subjects – his marriage. Unlike a lot of comedians who make their living out of complaining about their wives, MacDonald draws attention for his positive comments about being married.

His statement that "if my career were as good as my marriage, I'd be a bazillionaire by now" predictably drew "aws" from the crowd. However, MacDonald feels that responses like this say less about him and more about society in general.

"I have women come up to me after the show and say 'Wow it's so great that a guy like you talks about being happily married' and I think 'Wow, this shouldn't stick out as much as it does.' It's not a gimmick with me. It's how I feel about it, and therefore I have to assume that most guys are just fucking idiots. There are the guys who don't get it and lower the bar for the rest of us."

MacDonald moved to America a few years ago to pursue a career as a scriptwriter, but continues to come back to perform in Canada. He used to do stand-up in America, but after one show in North Carolina, where an audience member came up to him after the show and told him that his problem was he "made the audience think too much," he decided to stick to Canada.

In the end, the continued existence of MacDonald's career is reason enough to be impressed. Surviving the nuclear fallout that followed the 80s boom era (You all remember that don't you? When A&E was playing 'Evening at the Improv' 11 times a day and anybody even standing near a Yuk Yuk's got a sitcom pilot) is a feat in and of itself.

So why stick with stand-up, when a sitcom is infinitely easier and more lucrative? In the end, MacDonald is still a fan of the form, though a guarded one.

"When I'm on that stage in the middle of my act and everything is going well, all of sudden it's not Victoria... it's Carnegie Hall. When stand-up comedy is good, it's the best. When it's bad, it's the worst. As soon as you get a heckler, it's like 'Oh yeah, I'm in Victoria and I'm staying in a hotel without a remote control. Thanks for reminding me.'"

As far as the show goes, while there were undoubtedly a few moments in the show where the audience reminded Mike he was in Victoria, the standing ovation and the encore probably did a lot to help.

THEATRE REVIEW

Not getting *In On It*

Belfry's latest production pleases but fails to resonate

by Brett Josef Grubisic

Days after sitting in the dark and watching *In On It*, Daniel MacIvor's 75-minute two-actor show that briefly ran at the Belfry, I still find myself thinking about clever aspects of the staging, witty bits of dialogue and the frequent dazzling shifts in tone. In the technical aspect, MacIvor's stagecraft was equally original and accomplished.

In On It is less successful in rendering characters that its audience might come to care about.

And then there's some so-so news.

I feel less engaged by the play's characters and the stories they tell. That's because while *In On It* remains playfully self-conscious, forever drawing attention to the undeniable fact that its two actors performing are actors performing on a stage. Psychologically-involved productions generally reach out to audiences by creating emotional worlds through characterization. However, *In On It* is less successful in rendering characters that its audience might come to care about.

In On It begins with the stage in darkness except for an intense blue spotlight focused on a piece of crumpled cloth. An actor comes on stage and picks up the cloth, which he then unfolds to display a coat. Wearing it, he begins to recite lines. Another actor responds. Named This One and That One, two men who hop in and out of their various portrayals with commendable skill. Though the two actors play several distinct characters, it eventually becomes clear they are rehearsing a grim drama about death and divorce and generalized anguish. As the actors snippily remark on the roles they're performing (on why, for instance, the female characters are so clichéd), they comment on the dubious merit of the play itself (written by one of the two), revealing that they are lovers whose own relationship is on the verge of a breakdown. Unfortunately, their play within a play is too predictably a commentary on their failing love.

The complex overlap of stories and time frames makes watching *In On It* a challenging game of concentration as well as a highly mesmerizing hour of stage sleight-of-hand.

Still, the production's effort to be overtly inventive does hinder character development. This makes it difficult to feel any great sympathy for This One and That One – figures whose personalities have never exactly been ocean deep.

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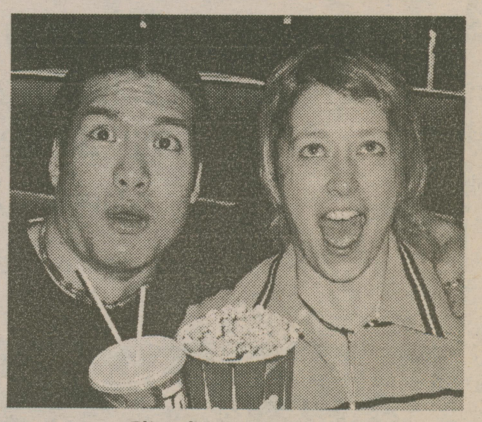

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Vikes swimmers take 10 medals at CIAUs

by Chelsea Smith

Like a school of ravenous piranhas, the six men and eight women of the University of Victoria swim team feasted on the competition this past weekend at the CIAU championships in Guelph, Ontario.

With 31 other Canadian universities in the competition, the young Vikes squad was on fire, taking home 10 medals in all: two gold, two silver and six bronze.

In the team competition, the women placed fourth overall, while the men secured fifth. UBC won both the men's and women's competition for the third year in a row.

"I think that as a team we performed very well considering the athletes we have and the depth of the competition," said Victoria head coach Peter Vizsolyi.

"I was actually surprised that we came fourth on the women's side. The calibre of competition... was a lot higher than in previous years," he said.

The ladies battled for fourth place right to the bitter end. On Sunday, the last day of competition, the team's destiny came down to the 4x100 medley relay. In an extremely tough race, the four woman Vikes squad pulled it together and were able to take the fifth place finish and secure fourth spot overall (by a mere one and a half points ahead of Universite Laval).

The men's team, which travelled to Guelph with only six out of a possible 18 swimmers, narrowly missed its own fourth place team finish. McGill University edged them out by only five points in the final standings.

According to many observers, the competition at this year's national meet was the toughest it had been in years. The number of talented rookies competing for Canadian schools is remarkable at the moment, as is the number of swimmers who skipped university in order to pursue Olympic dreams.

This is how the weekend transpired for the Vikes:

Friday

The Vikes started off the first day of competition with a flourish as they took first and second in the men's 100-metre breaststroke event.

Veteran John Stamhuis and rookie Jason Hunter led the race from the start and pushed each other to personal best times. Hunter finished 0.19 of a second ahead of Stamhuis, securing the gold and silver medals for UVic.

"Our breaststrokers were really strong. These are two guys who were both close to making the Olympic team last year, and it is going to be quite exciting for them at Nationals in a few weeks," said Vizsolyi.

In an impressive development, Stamhuis finished fifth in the 400-metre individual medley not half an hour after his breaststroke victory.

Other Vikes standouts on the men's side were Jesse Jacks, who was sixth in the 100-metre butterfly, and David Creel and David MacDonald who raced in the consolation final of the 400-metre individual medley (IM) and placed 10th and 11th respectively, earning more valuable points for the team.

On the women's side, Josee Dubois won the only medal of the night when she placed third in the women's 100-metre breaststroke – a season best time. She was followed closely by rookie breaststroker Jenny Wear, who touched fourth in the same race.

Saturday

On day two of the competition, the Vikes once again secured the majority of their medals in the breaststroke events. Stamhuis and Hunter once again teamed up to place first and second in the 200-metre breaststroke. This time Stamhuis set a blistering pace right from the gun and finished first, setting a new B.C. provincial record of 2:12.90.

Jacks added to the Vikes medal count by winning bronze in the 200-metre butterfly. Creel placed seventh in the 400-metre freestyle final, which was won in a CIAU-record breaking time by the Canadian record holder Rick Say.

Dubois had led the field in the morning swims of the women's 200-metre breaststroke but couldn't hold off the tough competition in the final and finished sixth. Wear swam to a personal best time and a bronze medal finish in the same race.

Rolston finished fifth in the 200-metre butterfly, while teammate Sarah Sinclair won the consolation final, placing her ninth overall. Stutzel raced to a sixth place finish in the 400-metre freestyle, and Amber Lunn won the consolation final of the 50-metre freestyle event.

Sunday

Three Vikes rookies showed off their strength and potential by winning three bronze medals on the last day of competition. Hunter and Wear both finished third in the men's and women's 50-metre breaststroke events, while Creel finished a surprised third in the 1500-metre freestyle with a final surge from behind.

"David Creel's 1500 was a breakthrough swim. He has had difficulties getting the best out of himself in a competitive situation. These results say a lot about the future of our program, when we can have the young athletes get up and perform at that level," noted Vizsolyi.

In the women's 800-metre freestyle, another tough field graced by several former Olympians, Stutzel finished a very respectable fifth. She also finished 11th in the 100-metre freestyle.

The competition was capped off for the Vikes with a sixth place finish from Stamhuis in the 200-metre IM, and a seventh place finish by MacDonald in the 200-metre backstroke.

Sports in brief

Men's Field Hockey

The University of Victoria men's field hockey team traveled to Los Angeles this past weekend to face the US junior national squad in a two game exhibition series.

When they arrived at their destination, the Vikes discovered, much to their chagrin, that they would be facing a team stacked with Team USA players.

Despite the heavy odds against them, Victoria rose to the occasion and gave the Americans a proper challenge. In the first contest, professionally trained pseudo-Team USA prevailed 4-2.

All four US goals came off of short corners (field hockey's equivalent to a free kick in football) as the Vikes successfully limited the Americans' offensive mobility. Chris Lane and Nathan Walker counted for Victoria.

In the rematch, the Canadians gave another strong effort but were forced to concede defeat in a 3-1 loss.

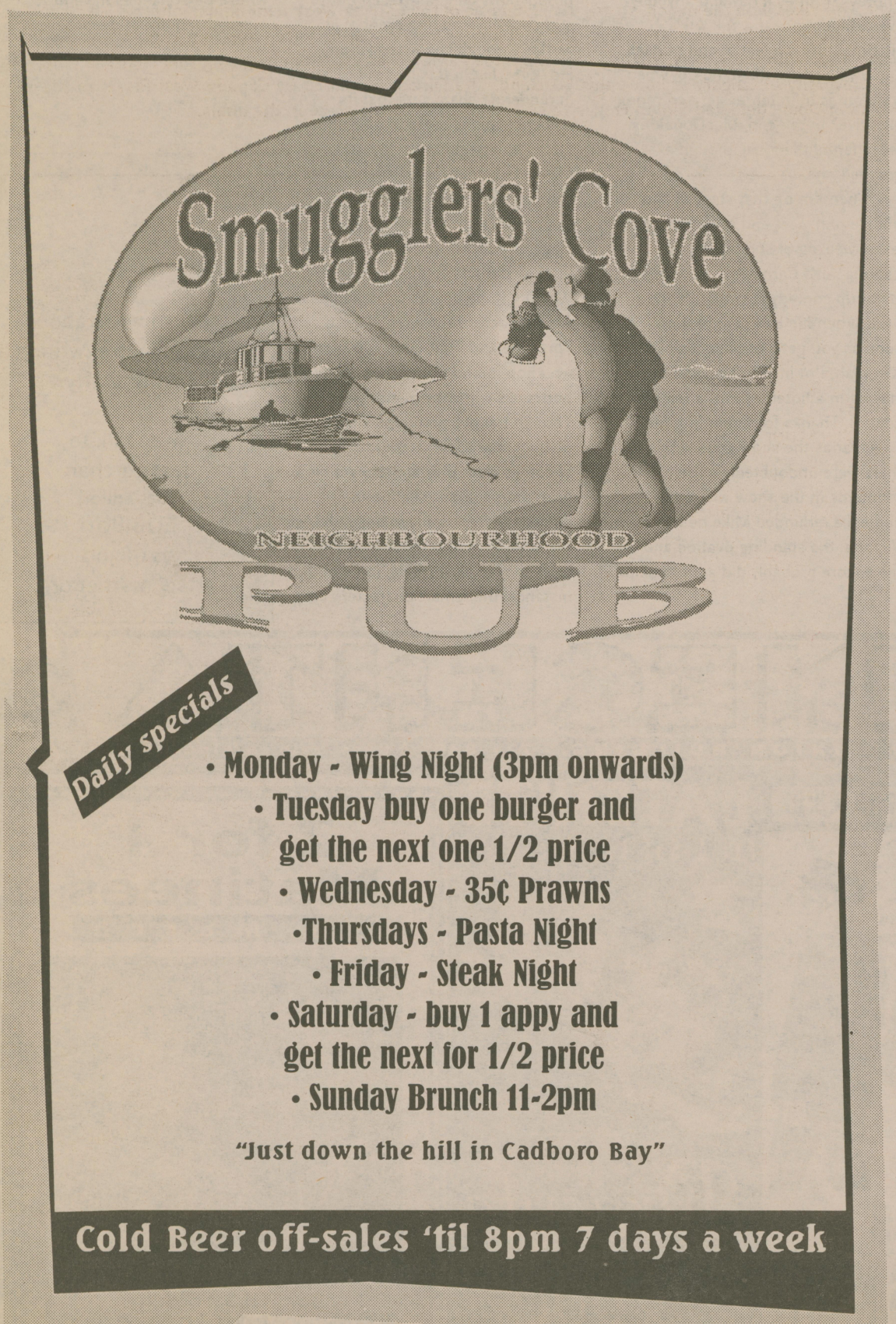
Track and Field

Highlighted by second-year Craig Babiuk's gold medal finish in the men's 1000-metre, the University of Victoria Track and Field team garnered five medals at the Canada West championship last weekend in Regina.

Babiuk, who led the race from start to finish, set a personal best time of 2:28.77 in Victoria's lone first place finish of the whole competition.

The Vikes also took home one silver (Babiuk in the 1500-metre) and three bronze medals. Andrea DePol finished third in the women's 1000-metre while Wendy Cocksedge placed a strong third in the women's 3000-metre. In the men's 4x 800-metre relay Babiuk led the Vikes to the bronze.

with files from Brent Dobbie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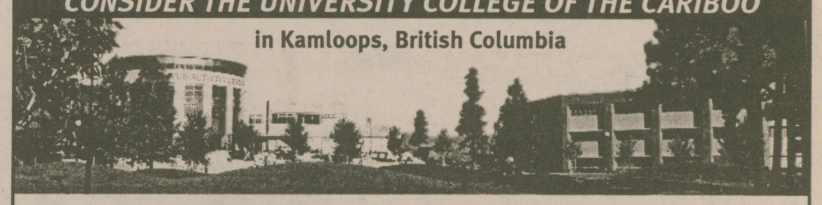

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Men's b-ball prepares for U of A Bears

by Jeremy Shragge

Nearly three weeks ago, the upstart Vikes men's basketball team took two crucial games from the first place University of Alberta Golden Bears to clinch home court advantage throughout the Canada West playoffs.

If the University of Victoria hope to win the conference crown, they are going to have to do it all over again this weekend at McKinnon Gym.

The two-time defending Canada West champion Bears, led by the towering forward pair of Pat Crevolin and Nick Maglisceau, travel to Victoria on Friday to take on Ali Wilmott and the rest of the UVic squad in a best-of-three series.

In the semi-finals last weekend, the Vikes defeated the visiting University of Lethbridge Pronghorns two games to one, while in Edmonton, the Bears dispatched the SFU Clan in straight games, 81-65 and 86-66.

According to Vikes forward Sandy Bisaro, success over Alberta hinges on their ability to stick the formula that brought them victory Sunday afternoon.

"We just have to stick with what we did today: we moved the ball, we were patient on offence – that's the key for us," he said.

In Friday's opener against fourth place Lethbridge, the Vikes shot an 44.4 per cent from the field and hit 9 of 13 three-pointers on their way to a 94-77 win.

Victoria head coach Guy Vetrie noted afterwards that his team was not nearly as sharp as they ought to have been.

"We did not play well Friday night. It was a sluggish game," said Vetrie, "we were up 16 at the half... then they brought it back to within eight. And then because of [shooting guard] Ali Wilmott we went on another run, and only because of Ali Wilmott."

In hindsight, Friday's average showing, which was distorted by Wilmott's 31 point performance, portended Saturday evening's 79-71 loss. Poor play down low and a lack of production from their big guns, Wilmott and Keith Bustard, crippled the Vikes offensively.

"We couldn't buy a basket tonight. I don't think there was a forward out there who could hit a shot," said a dejected Vetrie on Saturday.

"Sandy, Jason, [forward] Etienne Orr-Ewing... we didn't shoot very well, but that wasn't the whole story, I mean we didn't rebound very well either."

Indeed, a balanced Lethbridge attack was superior in both field goal shooting (54.1 per cent to 30.5 per cent) and rebounding (41-39). All five 'Horns starters scored in the double digits, led by fifth year forward Jason Harrison's 19, while only Wilmott and Bustard could garner more than 10 points (20 and 13, respectively).

With a handful of mostly muted spectators in attendance for the third and deciding game, the Vikes jumped out to a 14 point half-time lead that, with a few twists and turns aside, stood seriously unchallenged throughout the final 20 minute period.

As well as out-rebounding the 'Horns, 40-31, four Victoria starters, Wilmott (26 points), Crawford (12 points), Bustard (10 points) and point guard Chris Trumpy (14 points) scored in the double digits, and three others (Orr-Ewing, Bisaro and forward Greg Bateson) racked up nine points. Orr-Ewing led all players with 13 boards including eight in the first-half alone.

"I don't know if we came out ready to play yesterday," Bisaro noted on Sunday. "We tried to work on getting the ball a lot lower inside, being a lot more aggressive than we were yesterday, and I think we got off to a good start and just went from there."

He added, "We know what we're capable of doing as a team, the last two months the way we've played, and we know we didn't live up to that last night."

Canada West finals tip-off Friday and Saturday at 8:15 and Sunday afternoon at 3:00 if necessary.

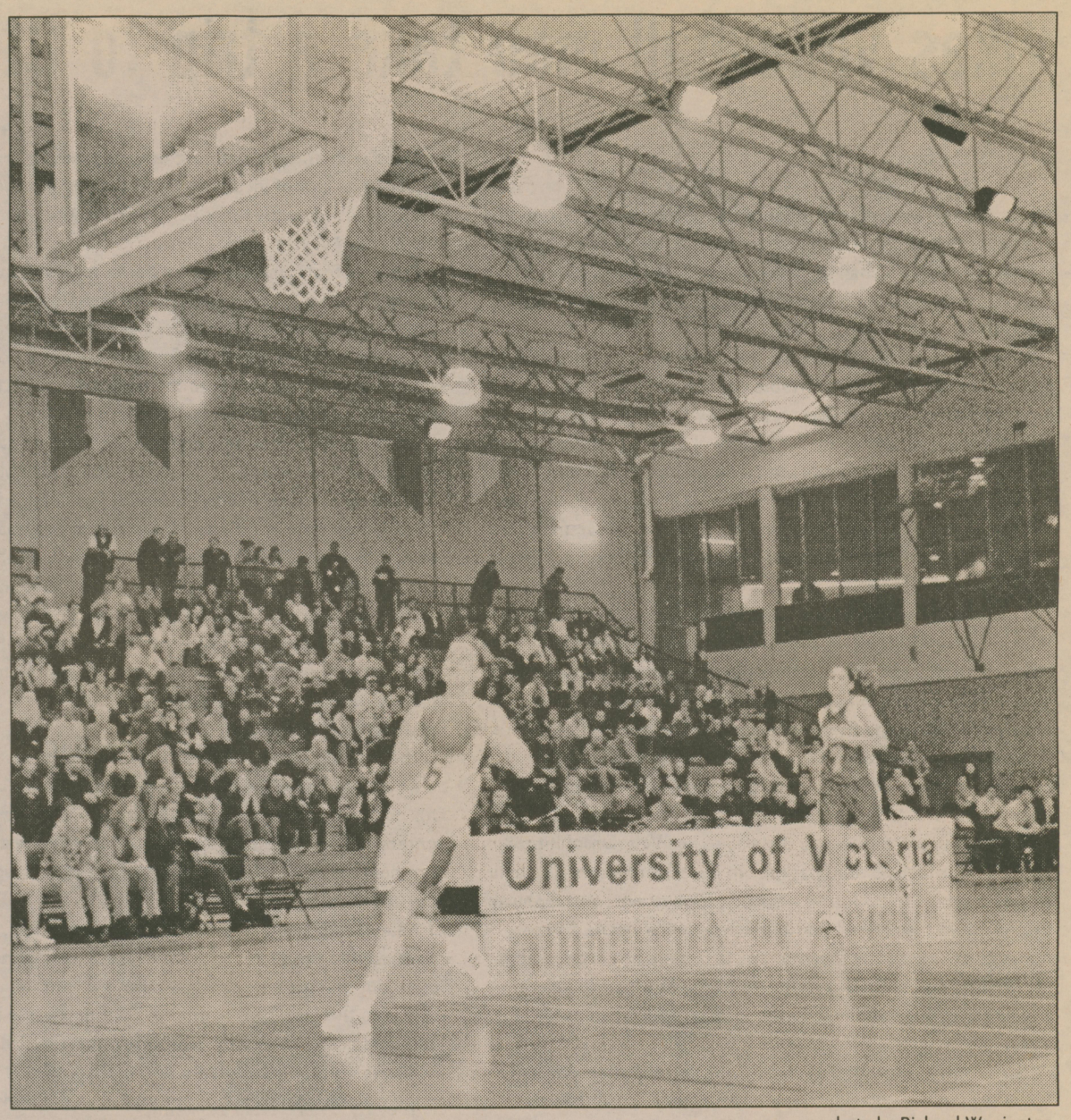

photo by Richard Warrington

Vikes star shooting guard Kim Johnson (#6) is sent in alone on the UBC basket last Friday night at McKinnon Gym. The Vikes won the match, 59-39, the first game of the Canada West semi-finals. Johnson led all scorers with 22 points. In Saturday's rematch, she kept up her frantic scoring pace, dropping 31 points as the Vikes won 72-60. With the victory, Victoria took the three game series 2-0, thereby giving themselves a date with the University of Calgary at home this weekend. The Dinos, captained by Canada West Player of the Year Leighann Doan, defeated Simon Fraser 74-50 and 78-73 to earn a place in the finals.

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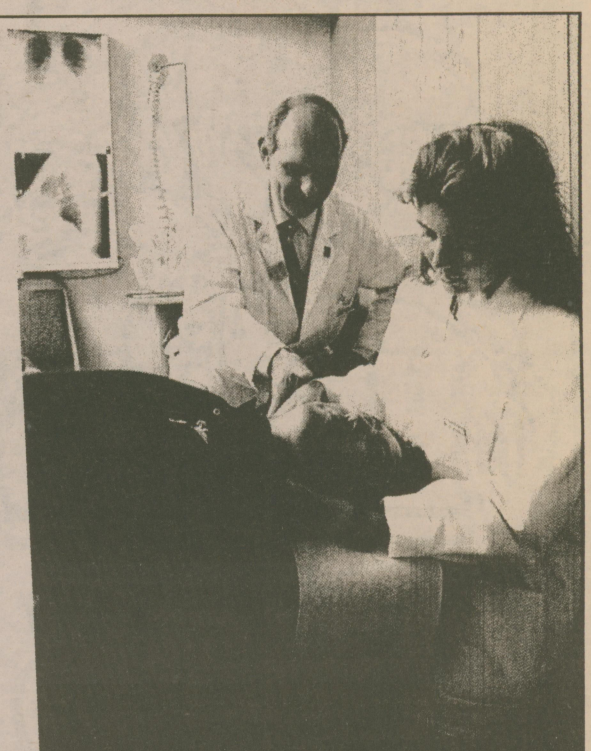

WE'LL PUT THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE IN YOUR HANDS.

Vikes volleyball men take a trip to Utah

by Iain McLetchie

While reading week allows most of us to relax and get caught up in our studies, it did nothing of the sort for the University of Victoria men's volleyball squad. A trip to Salt Lake City for a National Intramural and Recreational Sport Association tourney was our lot.

Road trips usually conjure up mental images of enjoyable, relaxed cruises in the comfortable confines of full-sized American cars, while regular stops allow the sojourners to stretch their legs and enjoy the beauty of God's creation. Memories are made, photos are taken and alcohol is consumed.

Well, how's this for a road trip? Twelve strapping young lads wedged together like sardines into a 15 passenger van for a measly 16-hour drive. Sound like fun to you? Read on my friend, and judge for yourself.

Our journey began on the Wednesday night of reading break. We somehow fit all our gear into our rented mule and began the trek. Full of dreams of glory, time flew by and we soon found ourselves in Seattle, where our coaches/drivers instantly got hopelessly lost in the transfer from the I-5 to the I-90. After stopping at a local convenience store in one of the shadier sections of town, we returned to the chase, only to somehow miss the turnoff to lovely Yakima.

We then made our way to the not-so-scenic town of Ritzville, WA, where, much to our chagrin, we found there were no small cheesy crackers to be found – a must for any extended highway trip. We then discovered that our missed turn would add two hours of driving to the journey. The lads were not impressed, but we had no choice but to return to our seats and settle in, trusting that our handlers would not pull such a foolhardy stunt again.

Surprisingly enough they didn't, and by mid-afternoon of the following day, we rolled into the Olympic city of Salt Lake, a mere 20 hours after landing in Tsawwassen. Ah, how time flies when you're having fun.

Faced with an early morning run, we woke up on Friday with a conspicuous lack of jocularity. Upon looking out the window, our unhappiness instantly turned to complete and utter dismay, as a steady snowfall was coming down.

Knowing that our coaches are barely removed from their playing days, we felt they would understand our reluctance to risk injury by trodding upon such a slippery path, and thus proceeded to plead with them for a couple more hours of shut-eye. The answer was quick, to the point and distinctly Anglo-Saxon. We ran and the coaches slept.

Breakfast proved to be a highlight, thanks to Grandma Rose, your typical diner waitress; complete with a puffy blond hairdo, a limp and infectiously positive attitude. The chance for a photo with this rare slice of Americana was not to be passed up, and it seemed to make Grandma Rose's day as well, as she kept saying "How nice you boys are." Chalk one up for Canadian politeness.

Our first opponent was the highly-regarded University of Colorado Buffaloes, who came into the tournament ranked third in the West. We dispatched these upstarts with little problem, and proceeded to make mincemeat out of the rest of our pool, finishing the day at a perfect 6-0.

The evening's accommodation proved to be a little sketchy, as we all piled onto the floor of a generous Utah player's house. Our host, Jeff, seemed amused by the situation, and we appreciated his kindness immensely. Unfortunately, sleeping on hard floors doesn't allow for much of a rest, and we were slightly sore and slow in the morning.

A late brekkie almost proved to be our undoing, as we moseyed into the gym slightly after our 8 a.m. game time. We found out that we were losing a point per minute, and had to rush onto the floor sans warm-up. Fortunately, the Weber State Wild Cats licked. We easily overcame our 0-5 deficit and lit up the Yanks quicker than Atlanta during the Civil War.

We proceeded into the playoff round with a perfect 10-0 record. Once again, our opponent was Colorado, who had taken a great beating to their collective ego losing three matches in the first two days. Some smack was talked in the change rooms, and it seemed the Buffaloes felt they would wupp our asses. Once again, this proved to be an incorrect assumption, as we took them out behind the woodshed, winning 2-0, including a thrilling 32-30 second game.

Our next opponent was the pesky Ricks College, a Mormon junior college in Dryhump, Idaho. A close first game was followed by a thrashing in the second game, highlighted by Brett Lockhart serving nine points in a row. (No, you don't understand. Brett has never put two serves over the *net* in a row before!)

In an upset of Herculean proportions, the hometown University of Utah Utes had beaten Utah Valley State College Wolverines, the top-ranked team in the West, thereby earning the right to face "Canada," as we had come to be, in the finals. The first game was an intense battle, with points being passed back and forth like a hot spud. The Utes somehow prevailed, 25-23, giving us our first lost game of the tournament.

We weren't about to collapse and die, however. A 25-14 shellacking of the Utes in the rematch set the stage for a winner-takes-all third game.

The deciding game was all Utes in the early going, as a number of errors on our part allowed them to build an early lead. With the score 14-11, and the Americans sensing victory, "Honest" Abe Avender stepped up and let out a jump serve which the Utes couldn't handle. His next serve was a tricky float and, once again, we responded with a stop. Another defensive sideout left the score at 14-14.

Utah managed to put our next serve away, and had a chance to serve for match point. A scrappy rally ensued, but we couldn't finish the deal, and the Utes walked away with a 16-14 victory, and first place in the tournament.

Our second-place finish was impressive despite a 20 hour van ride and the complete lack of sleep. We played superbly every game, and the teamwork was something I'll never forget. So, despite all the incantations about how insane we were to be driving to "Mormon Central", this turned out the be the best reading break ever. Indeed, it was an "unsurmountable" weekend, and one I would do over any time, although preferably in a motor home.

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Fencing club goes to UBC

by Laura Keble

For the first time in over five years, teams from the UVic Fencing Club crossed the Georgia Straight to compete in the Stephen Lazar Memorial Varsity Tournament.

Fencers from the UBC club organized last Saturday's tournament, reviving a once-traditional annual varsity event. For the past five years the tournament has lain dormant due to lack of inter-collegiate organization.

"All clubs are interested [in competition]," said Veronica Ho, the assistant-director of the UVic club. "UBC wants to take the lead in setting up a circuit."

At the Lazar Memorial, teams and singles competed in open senior and open junior events. UVic competed in Saturday's team foil event only, as foil is the method preferred by most club members. The epee teams and singles fought it out on Sunday.

Two of the four UVic teams (comprised of three fencers each) tied for third place, after Victoria's St. Andrews High School and UBC. The other two teams placed fourth and fifth.

UVic was represented by Erika Kwan, Alice Cheung, Robert Smith, Brian Mould, Daniel Ukryn, Lawrence Wong, Roderick Jeffries, Geoff Schmidf, Robert Macquarie and Chris Bugslad.

This year's tournament included both high school and varsity teams, competing in both the foil and epee sword events. Foil fencing counts hits to the chest, stomach and back areas, while in epee matches, hits to any part of the body are counted.

Individual fights are won by whomever gets five hits first, while the team events are won by the trio that reaches 45 the quickest.

A varsity circuit proposed by the UBC club would include UVic, UBC, Simon Fraser, and the University of Western Washington, with yearly tournaments like the Lazar Memorial.

UVic fencing club members are extatic about the opportunity to compete with other schools.

"I'm looking forward to the next tournament," said Ukryn. Others expressed interest in the epee event next year.

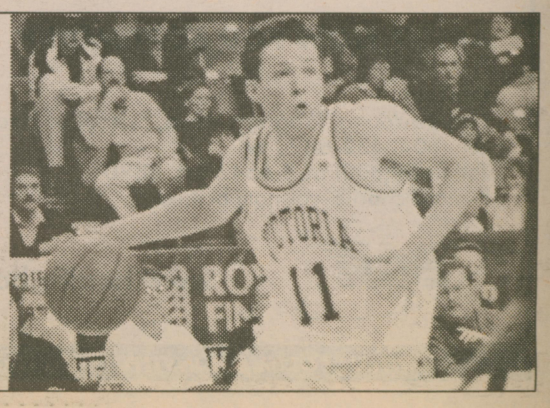
Members of the UVic Fencing Club practice in the McKinnon building on Saturday afternoons from 1:30pm to 4:00pm.

"In fencing, you get skinny, metal sticks and you get to poke people with them. What more could you ask for?" said Ukryn.

Vikes Athletics
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
721-8406 www.uvic.ca/vikes

VIKES BASKETBALL WEEKEND
CANADA WEST FINALS (BEST OF 3)

March 2 & 3
McKinnon Gym
Women vs. Calgary at 6:30pm
Men vs. Alberta at 8:15 pm
Sunday March 4 if neccessary, game times @ 1:00 & 3:00 pm



ON CAMPUS

Tibet: Two Journeys, 1986 and 2000. A slide show featuring the images of David O'Neil, taken in 1985, and David Greenshields, who visited Tibet 14 years later. **Fri. March 2** at 7 p.m., Centre for Innovative Teaching, Rm. 105. Admission by donation. Brought to you by the UVic Students for a Free Tibet.

The UVic Chinese Student Radio Association presents: Three Point Motors Mercedes Benz Victoria New Talent Singing Competition Final 2001. **Mon. March 5** at 8 p.m. at the UVic Auditorium. Fundraising for the Vancouver Island Cancer Centre Daring to Believe campaign. Tix $12 for group of 10+, $15 reg., $18 VIP available at CSRA office (Clubs and Course Union Rm.) 11:30-3 on Wed., Wings Travel, and DSB & University Centre Booths. Winners get over $2000 in cash and prizes with a chance to enter the Vancouver Final 2001. Door prizes and car show. Tix 216-8886, email vntsc2001@hotmail.com, www.uvss.uvic.ca/~csra

CHAI Victoria – Jewish Students Association offers a full and varied schedule of programming. Feel free to check us out or to join us at our next event. For more details, please contact us at jewish@uvic.ca or at the INFO-LINE 370-9488, ext. 2.

New service! Two Jewish chaplains are now available on campus. Gidi Nahshon, MSW, is available on Mondays and Wednesdays 5-6 pm, while Joel Fagan, MD, is available on Tuesdays 4-5 pm. Drop by to discuss what's on your mind – not just spiritual matters. For more information, please contact 721-8338.

"Ring-Out" the week with Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship every Friday night! Everyone is welcome to join us for Praise, Worship, Singing, Prayer, Fellowship and Teaching! Have a Bible? Bring it! See you Friday nights for Ring-Out in Cle C 112 at 7:30 p.m.

OFF CAMPUS

Earth Groove Ancient rainforest Benefit. Music with Chameleon and the Hayo Bola Firedancers. Proceeds to the Western Canada Wilderness Committee. **Sat. March 3** at the Cambie (formerly the Esquimalt Inn) 856 Esquimalt Rd. Slideshow at 9 p.m., music at 9:30. Tickets $5 at WCWC (651 Johnson St.) and at door.

"Time Out" Sports Card and Beanie Baby show at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 3277 Douglas St. on **March 4,** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a $1 cover charge and door prize draws at 11 and noon. For details contact Harvey at 727-3422.

Café Philosophy: Taking public philosophy to a new level. Next topic Gender: How much does gender determine who we are? How can the genders better understand each other? Is there male and female in everyone (or is that a myth?) **Wed. March 7** at 7:30 p.m. De Torrefazione Italia (1234 Government St.), Cover $4/$3 for students. For more information call Michael Picard, Ph.D., at 385-4646 or e-mail pyro@philosophy-shop.com

VOLUNTEERS

Meet new people, connect to campus. Orientation info booths coming to a building near you March 5 to 16! Go to website for locations: www.coun.uvic.ca/orient/volunteer.html

The Single Parent Resource Centre begins its next 8 wk. training program in active listening skills on **Thurs. March 8**. Phone 385-1114 for an interview.

TUTORS

French – essays, translation, grammar, literature and discussion. $15/hr. Magali 598-3344.

English, philosophy tutor. $15/hr. Carlos 881-8784.

English/Philosophy. Essay critique, proofreading, assignment discussion, etc. Enjoy learning but need a little assistance to fulfill your potential? I can help. Call Janet at 595-8438.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention musicians! Campbell River Salmon Festival Entertainment Committee is putting out a call to local musicians/bands to contact the Festival office at 287-7221 or Cathy Kalyniuk at 923-0580 for consideration at this year's Festival occuring **Aug. 10, 11, & 12, 2001.** With the exception of the headliner on Sat. night, the board/committee would like to showcase local/regional musicians at this year's event. Send bio, tape/cd (or a list of upcoming gigs), website address, set list, contact name and address, and photo for media promotion to: Salmon festival Office, Attn. Cathy Kalyniuk, Box 191, Campbell River, V9W 5A7. Deadline for submissions is **March 1** – submissions past this date will not be considered. Selections committee will determine eligible bands/acts. Notification will be made shortly thereafter.

Pottery, sculpture & hand-building classes with continuous registration available. Six 2.5 hour classes, flexible, $160. Call Potter's Corner at 383-5446 for more details.

HELP WANTED

The Cambie @ The Esquimalt Inn requires p/t energetic, experienced bar staff. Flexible schedules available. Please fax resumes to 386-4313, Attn: Dennis.

Help keep B.C. wild! Paid door-to-door canvassing positions available now. Great jobs for students – evening hours, flexible schedule. Call Lisa at 388-9292.

Painters wanted – Experience an asset but not necessary. Vehicle an asset. Call Casey at 721-5906.

Summer camp counselors on campus interviews for premier camps in Massachusetts. Positions available for talented, energetic and fun-loving students as counselors in all team sports including roller hockey and lacrosse, all individual sports such as tennis and golf, waterfront and pool activities and specialty activities including art, dance, theatre, gymnastics, newspaper, rocketry and radio. Great salaries, room, board, travel and US summer work visa. June 16 to Aug. 15. Enjoy a great summer that promises to be unforgettable. For more info and to apply: MAH-KEE-NAC (boys) www.campmkn.com, 1-800-753-9118; DANBEE (girls) www.danbee.com, 1-800-392-3752. Interviewer will be on campus **Mon. March 5** – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the SUB, Michéle Pujol Room.

Attention university/college students: full-time spring and summer jobs available in marketing and painting. No experience necessary. Car an asset. Leave message at 475-8321.

Thinking about working for a summer camp in the US? I've got the goods... email any questions about Mah-Kee-Nac or Danbee to bcook023@hotmail.com

Travel – teach English. 5 day/40 hr **(May 16-20)** TESOL teacher cert. course (or by correspondence). 1,000s of jobs available NOW. Free info pack, toll free 1-888-270-2941.

HEY YOU

So the **curly-haired poet** finds no songs at Paul's to please his discerning taste... maybe make it up with *A Hard Day's Night*?

Eris passes along this spring message: "To that special someone, from you know who."

If heaven's just a sin away, what are we waiting for? Have a rockin' boo-ya 'b' day, from the whole M crew.

Satan: They used to call me Tricky

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hey you!	$1/issue

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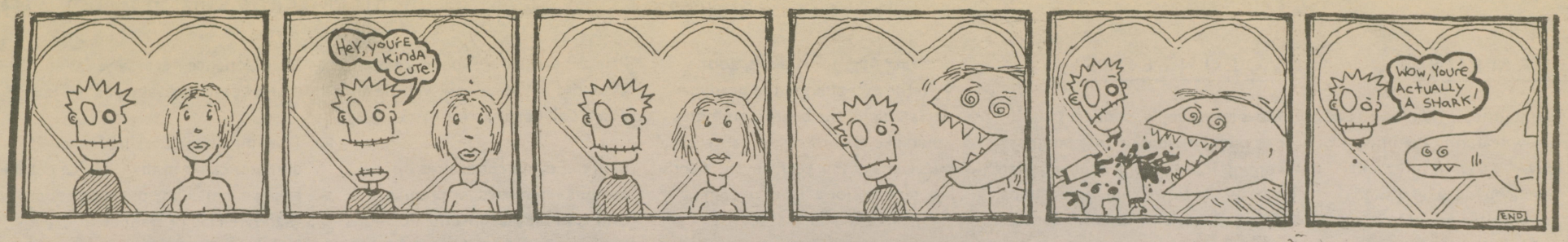
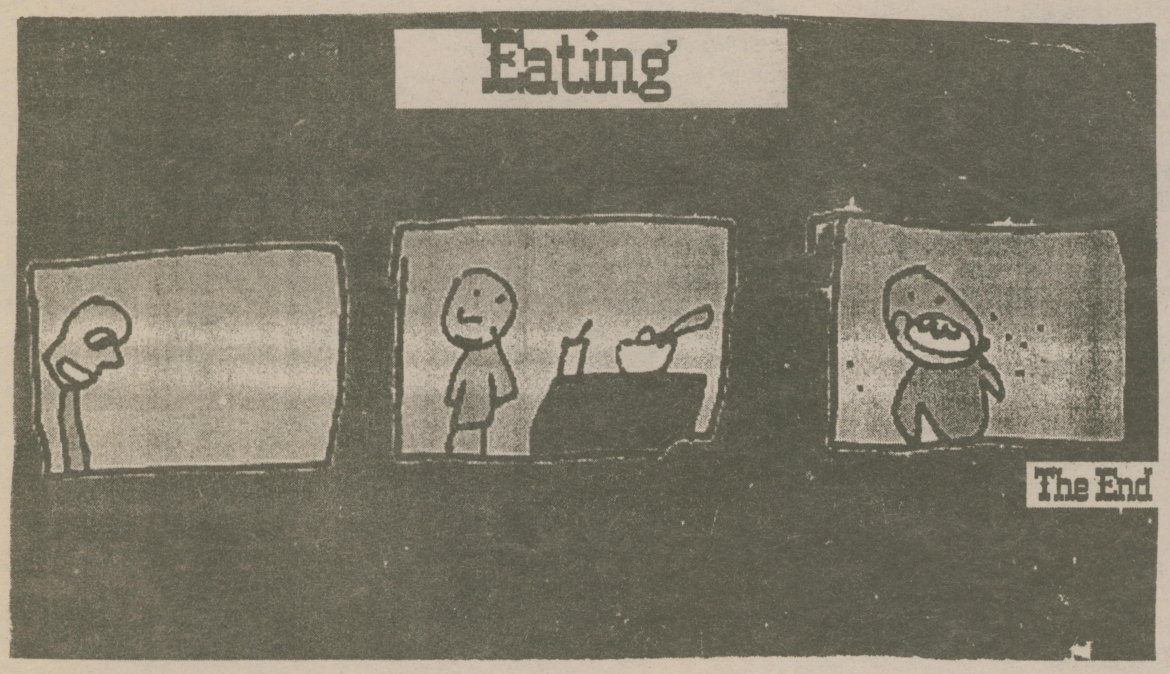
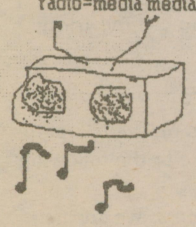




Code Word – Mango
A Bob Loft comic
The eagle has landed Monsieur Grandanad!
Great news Monsieur Petitbody!
But did anybody follow you???
M. Grandanad
Nobody, except for this sweet little puppy.
Goo! Me No DUMB!! Dr. Grandbody has struck again!!! Quick, kill the puppy!
WAK!
Now that is one dead puppy.
No time to lose! I think that chipmunk just looked at us funny!!
Maximum Bob Comics ©2001

Goombas

radio=media media=hate hate=l/(love)



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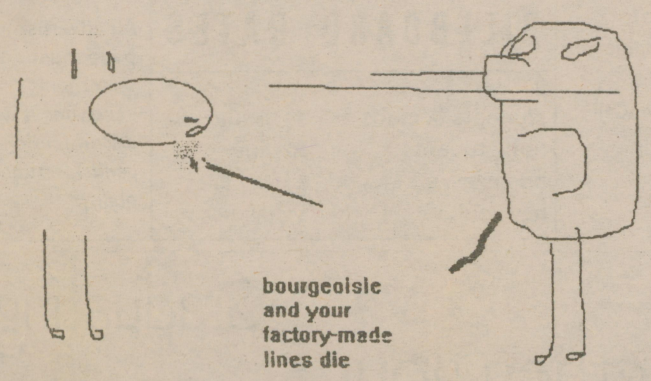

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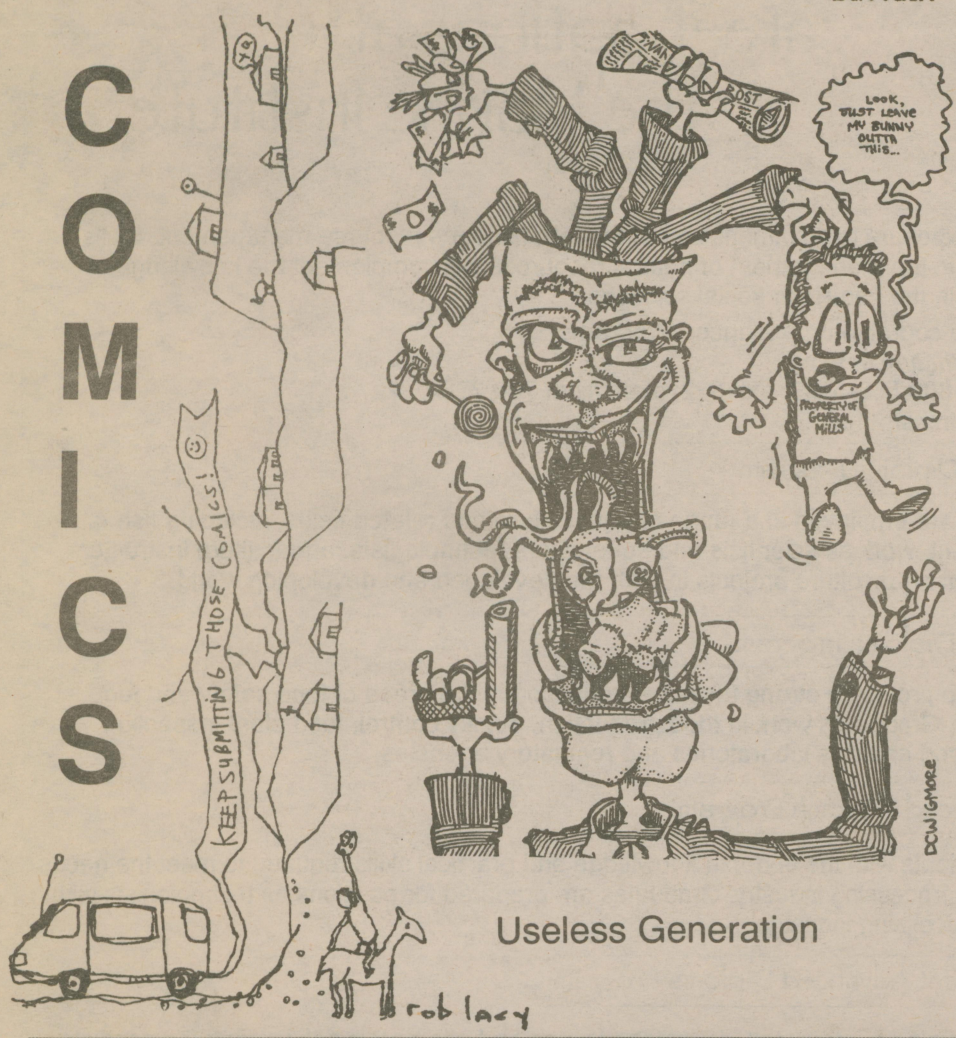
btn fuck

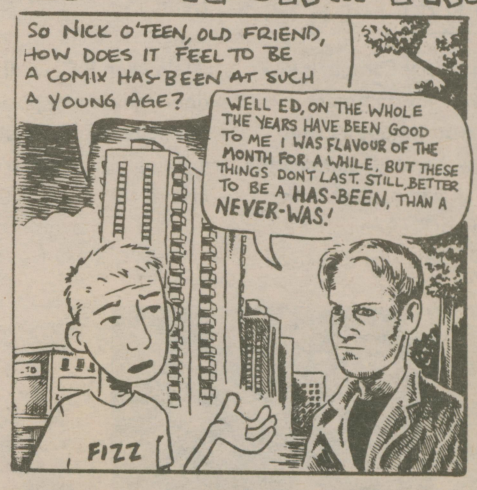
COMICS



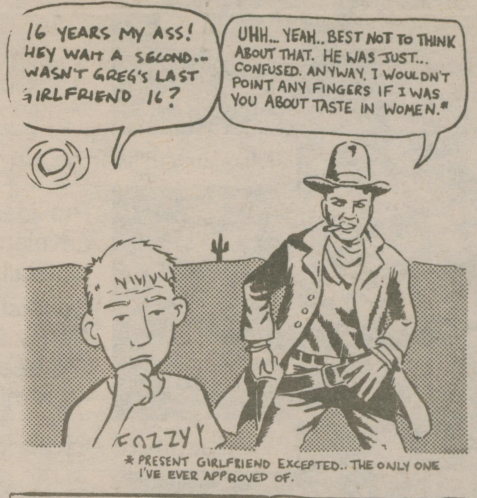
Useless Generation

rob lacy

Ed and Nick in "Friends to the End"

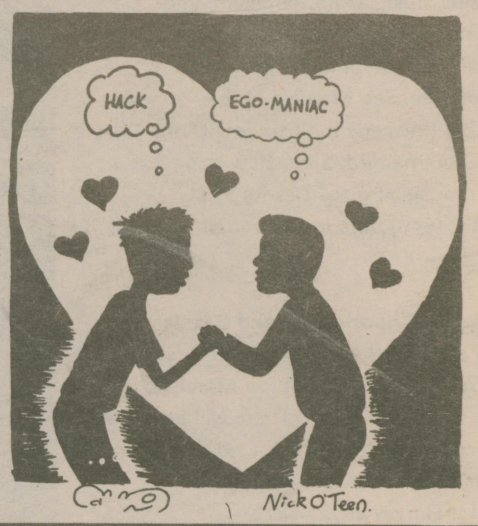

So Nick O'Teen, old friend, how does it feel to be a comix has-been at such a young age?
Well Ed, on the whole the years have been good to me. I was flavour of the month for a while. But these things don't last. Still, better to be a has-been, than a never-was!
Fizz

Hey! Fuck you!
Lest you forget that I used to publish your stuff in the back of my comics. At the back!!!
Hey, you're swearing already! I can't take you anywhere! This is a family paper. And let me remind you, that was sixteen years ago... Sixteen years!
SOB
Fuzz


16 years my ass! Hey wait a second.. wasn't Greg's last girlfriend 16?
Uhh... yeah.. best not to think about that. He was just... confused. Anyway, I wouldn't point any fingers if I was you about taste in women.*
Fozzy
* Present girlfriend excepted.. the only one I've ever approved of.

That's all in the past! My problems with girls are over! I have reached utter stability in my love life.
I know. I was thinking about the girl who escaped from the mental hospital or the girl with no nipples.

Let's set our differences aside. I can't stay mad at you. Give me a hug you cad! You know I love you.
Ed. I also have deep feelings for you... I have realized utter stability in our relationship!
Nick
My cape is at the dry cleaners!



See more of Ed Brisson's work (and mine) at bentcomics.com